

Risk Factors of Stage II Colon Cancer : A Comparison between the Right-Side and Left-Side Colon

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Abstract : Aims : Although approximately 25-35% of all patients with stage II colon cancer experience a tumor relapse, so far no specific therapy has been established. In this retrospective study, we attempted to identify the characteristics predictive of a poor prognosis in stage II colon cancer patients. Patients and Methods : From 1991 to 2000, 123 stage II patients underwent surgery at our institution. Using the Cox proportional hazards model, we divided patients into two groups (groups R and L). Results : An analysis revealed no differences in the sex, gross appearance, tumor depth, lymphatic invasion, and venous invasion between the two groups. However, regarding the pathological grade, a significant difference was seen between the two groups ($p=0.005$), and the rate of group R was significantly lower than that of group L (80.8%, 96%, $p=0.027$, log-rank test). Conclusions : Right-side colon cancer patients with a high tumor grade were thus found to have a poor prognosis in stage II. These patients should therefore receive chemotherapy.

Key words : Colon cancer, Risk factors, Poor prognosis, Stage II