

Clinical Manifestations of Different Histological Variants of Breast Carcinoma

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Abstract:

Introduction: The article conducted a retrospective analysis of medical histories and outpatient records of 1650 patients with breast cancer. An increase in the ability to metastasize has been established in poorly differentiated tumors compared to more mature forms. At the same time, the morphological aspect of metastasis in breast cancer has not been sufficiently studied, and studies devoted to this issue are few.

Objective: To determine the survival prognosis depending on the histological type of breast cancer.

Materials and methods: The study involved personal observations of patients, analysis of medical histories and outpatient records of patients treated at the Samarkand branch of the Russian National Medical Research and Medical Center from 2017 to 2022. During this time, 1650 patients with primary breast cancer were treated.

Results: Depending on the stage of the process for Paget's breast cancer, patients were distributed as follows: I T_{1,2}N₀M₀y 6, II a T₂N₀M₀y 13, II B, T₂N₁M₀-y 5, III a T₃N₀M₀y 4, III B, T_{1,2,3}N_{1,2}M₀y 6.

During a clinical examination of patients, the tumors had a lumpy surface and a dense consistency; 2 patients had dense, enlarged axillary lymph nodes. 7 patients had I - II a, T₂N₀M₀ stage of the process, 2 - III b, T₂₋₃N₁₋₂M₀. The frequency of metastasis was 16.5%, information on 5-year survival is available for 2 patients, for the rest the duration of observation of patients continues.

Conclusion: The most common histological form (50%) was Paget's cancer, characterized by a slow course, high 3 and 5 year survival of patients with locally advanced processes.

Key words: breast cancer, tumor, morphology, Paget's cancer, 5-year survival rate.

Introduction: Numerous studies by domestic and foreign authors have shown that the implementation of the metastasis process depends both on the general reaction of the body and on the biological properties of the tumor cell. The literature has accumulated information according to which the biological properties of tumors can be judged based on the characteristics of their morphology. Thus, in cancer of the stomach, lungs, and thyroid gland, a certain relationship has been identified between the histological structure of the tumor, the degree of its differentiation and the ability to metastasize [1,2,3,4,9,10].

An increase in the ability to metastasize has been established in poorly differentiated tumors compared to more mature forms. At the same time, the morphological aspect of metastasis in breast cancer has not been sufficiently studied, and studies devoted to this issue are few. D.N. Melnikov

notes the highest frequency of metastasis in scirra (58%), solid cancer (44.5%). The lowest frequency of metastasis was in intraductal cancer (22%), adenocarcinoma (36%), there were no metastases in Paget's cancer [1,5,6,7,8].

We decided to trace the clinical course of individual histological variants of tumors (WHO histological classification of tumors) and also to draw parallels between the histological structure and the nature of metastasis of some of these tumors to regional lymph nodes.

Aim of the study: To determine the survival prognosis depending on the histological type of breast cancer.

Materials and methods: The study involved personal observations of patients, analysis of medical histories and outpatient records of patients treated at the Samarkand branch of the Russian National Medical Research and Medical Center from 2017 to 2022. During this time, 1650 patients with primary breast cancer were treated.

Paget's cancer is a relatively rare disease. According to the literature, its frequency is 1-25% of all histological forms of breast cancer.

In the period from 2017 to 2022, the Samarkand branch of the RSNPMTSORiR treated 3% of patients with Paget's disease. The youngest was 30 years old, the oldest was 68 years old. The largest number of patients (30) was observed at the age of 45-60 years. In the majority of patients (18), the breast disease began with changes in the nipple in the form of weeping, the appearance of whitish crusts, cracks, and thickening. The duration of such changes is from 1.5 to 10 years. The patients were treated by a dermatologist for "psoriasis," "eczema," and a surgeon for "chronic inflammation of the nipple." After the treatment, some of the patients experienced a temporary subjective improvement: itching, burning, and a feeling of squeezing of the nipple decreased, but then the disease acquired the same clinical signs. The appearance of a tumor-like formation in the mammary gland (12 people), pronounced changes in the nipple and areola (3), and enlarged axillary lymph nodes (3) forced the patients to consult a doctor.

Results and discussion: Depending on the stage of the process for Paget breast cancer, patients were distributed as follows: I T_{1,2}N₀M₀y 6, II a T₂N₀M₀y 13, II B, T₂N₁M₀-y 5, III a T₃N₀M₀y 4, III B, T_{1,2,3}N_{1,2}M₀y 6.

Thus, in the majority of patients, a locally spread process was detected (22 people or 65%, stages 1,2 a, 3a).

In the presence of metastases to regional lymph nodes, combined and complex treatment was used. The five-year survival rate of patients with locally advanced forms was 71%, the 10-year survival rate was 40%. In the presence of metastases to regional lymph nodes, the prognosis worsened: 5-year survival rate was 30%, no patients were observed living 10 years or more. With isolated lesions of the nipple, the 5-year survival rate was 100%; 62% survived 10 years or more.

Lobular carcinoma was noted in 10 patients. The average age is 50-60 years, the average duration of the disease is from 1 to 3 years. It is worth noting that in 3 people, lobular cancer was found during surgery with urgent histological examination performed for localized mastopathy.

The nature of the disease (T_{2,3}N₀M₀) was 8. 3 had metastases to the axillary lymph nodes, and 2 had multiple ones. Three-year survival was observed in 5 patients; the remaining duration of observation did not exceed 3 years. Papillary carcinoma was detected in 9 patients. The age of the patients was 45-60 years, 3 patients were over 70 years old. The average duration of the disease did not exceed 1 year. During a clinical examination of patients, the tumors had a lumpy surface and a dense consistency; 2 patients had dense, enlarged axillary lymph nodes. 7 patients had I - II a, T₂N₀M₀ stage of the process, 2 - III b, T₂₋₃N₁₋₂M₀. The frequency of metastasis was 16.5%,

information on 5-year survival is available for 2 patients, for the rest the duration of observation of patients continues.

Mucosal cancer was observed in 1% of patients. The average age of patients was 40-60 years, the oldest patient was 74 years old. In most of our observations (8 out of 14), the disease lasted for a long time from 2 to 6 years, on average 2-3 years. Only one patient in this group had metastases to the axillary lymph nodes. Clinical examination revealed various tumor sizes with a diameter of 1.5-6 cm; all of them had a dense consistency, a lumpy surface, a clear border in most patients, and were sometimes fused to the skin. One patient had multiple metastases to the axillary lymph nodes; they looked like a mucous conglomerate.

Depending on the stage of the disease, patients underwent surgical, combined and complex treatment. When analyzing survival, it was noted that 4 patients with I - II a T₂ N₀ M₀ stage of the disease lived after radical treatment for 5 or more years; the remaining patients, the duration of observation did not exceed 1.5 years. Thus, in the listed special histological variants of carcinoma there is a low ability to metastasize, the average frequency of metastasis was 28%, which is lower than in other forms of breast cancer: solid cancer (59%), scirrhous (55%), adenocarcinoma (46%) .

In locally advanced forms of Paget's cancer , there is a high 5- and 10-year survival rate and a worse prognosis in the presence of metastases to regional lymph nodes or the appearance of a tumor node in the mammary gland, which generally does not contradict the results of observations of other authors.

Conclusions: 1. The most common histological form (50%) was Paget's cancer , characterized by a slow course, high 3 and 5 year survival of patients with locally advanced processes.

2. A small number of observations does not allow us to speak definitively, but it seems that some forms of breast cancer have a low ability to metastasize to regional lymph nodes (21%).

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