**TABLE 4** Adverse Events (AEs) by chemotherapy (the worst grade) (SAS, n = 46)

| No. of patients          | Grade 1 | Grade 2 | Grade 3 | Grade 4 | All grades (%) | Grade 3/4 (%) |
|--------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|----------------|---------------|
| Laboratory AEs           |         |         |         |         |                |               |
| Leukocytes               | 9       | 6       | 4       | 0       | 41.3           | 8.7           |
| Neutrophils              | 4       | 8       | 6       | 2       | 43.5           | 17.4          |
| Platelets                | 9       | 0       | 0       | 0       | 19.6           |               |
| Hemoglobin               | 23      | 9       | 0       | 0       | 69.6           |               |
| AST                      | 10      | 0       | 0       | 0       | 21.7           |               |
| ALT                      | 8       | 0       | 0       | 0       | 17.4           |               |
| ALP                      | 17      | 3       | 0       | 0       | 43.5           |               |
| Y-GTP                    | 11      | 8       | 1       | 0       | 43.5           | 2.2           |
| Total Bilirubin          | 3       | 0       | 0       | 0       | 6.5            |               |
| Albumin                  | 11      | 1       | 0       | 0       | 26.1           |               |
| Creatinine               | 4       | 0       | 0       | 0       | 8.7            |               |
| Proteinuria              | 9       | 3       | 0       | 0       | 26.1           |               |
| PT-INR                   | 4       | 0       | 0       | 0       | 8.7            |               |
| APTT                     | 3       | 0       | 0       | 0       | 6.5            |               |
| Clinical AEs             |         |         |         |         |                |               |
| Hypertension             | 9       | 2       | 3       | 0       | 30.4           | 6.5           |
| Fatigue                  | 15      | 9       | 3       | 0       | 58.7           | 6.5           |
| Hyperpigmentation        | 11      | 0       | 0       | 0       | 23.9           |               |
| Hand-foot syndrome       | 9       | 0       | 0       | 0       | 19.6           |               |
| Anorexia                 | 16      | 8       | 0       | 0       | 52.2           |               |
| Diarrhea                 | 5       | 5       | 1       | 0       | 23.9           | 2.2           |
| Stomatitis               | 9       | 2       | 1       | 0       | 26.1           | 2.2           |
| Nausea                   | 16      | 5       | 1       | 0       | 47.8           | 2.2           |
| Vomiting                 | 1       | 1       | 0       | 0       | 4.4            |               |
| Dysgeusia                | 13      | 2       | 0       | 0       | 32.6           |               |
| Neuropathy: motor        | 3       | 0       | 0       | 0       | 6.5            |               |
| Neuropathy: sensory      | 29      | 4       | 0       | 0       | 71.7           |               |
| Related to BV            |         |         |         |         |                |               |
| GI bleeding              | 1       | 0       | 0       | 0       | 2.2            |               |
| Urinary/genital bleeding | 2       | 0       | 0       | 0       | 4.3            |               |
| Pulmonary bleeding       | 3       | 0       | 0       | 0       | 6.5            |               |
| Thromboembolism          | 0       | 0       | 1       | 0       | 2.2            | 2.2           |
| Myocardial infarction    | 0       | 1       | 0       | 0       | 2.2            |               |

AEs adverse events, ALP alkaline phosphatase, ALT alanine aminotransferase, APTT activated partial thromboplastin time, AST aspartate aminotransferase, BV bevacizumab, GI gastrointestinal, No number, PT-INR prothrombin time-international normalized ratio, Y-GTP  $\gamma$ -glutamyltransferase

the sum major target lesion diameters from the pretreatment total was -37.4 % (range -59.6 to 12.0 %).

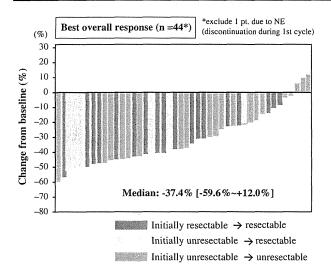
#### Liver Resections

Hepatectomy was performed on 24 (53.3 %) of 45 patients. R0, R1, and R2 hepatectomies were performed on 20 cases, one case, and three cases, respectively. The R0 resection rate relative to the total study population (primary endpoint) was 44.4 % (90 % CI 31.7–57.7 %). Of the secondary endpoints, the hepatectomy rate was 53.3 %,

and the percentage of cases with R0 resection among all hepatectomized cases was 83.3 %.

Of the 19 initially resectable cases, 18 underwent hepatectomy, excluding the 1 case in which the protocol treatment was discontinued during the first cycle (rated as NE). Among these 18 cases, 16 patients underwent R0 hepatectomy and two underwent R1/R2 hepatectomy. Of the 26 initially unresectable cases, there were 6 (23.1 %) patients who underwent hepatectomies after the sixth treatment cycle. Among these six cases, there were four patients who underwent an R0 hepatectomy, one patient who

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**FIG. 2** Waterfall plot analysis (efficacy analysis set [EAS], n = 45). *NE* not evaluated

underwent an R1, and one patient who underwent an R2. The percentage of initially unresectable and subsequently resectable cases (a secondary endpoint) was 23.1 %. No cases with "resectable" judgments before treatment changed to "unresectable" after treatment (Fig. 1).

#### Complications after Liver Resection

As to the intraoperative/postoperative complications and their incidence rates among the 25 patients in the EAS who underwent hepatectomy, grade 3<sup>17</sup> or higher intraoperative/postoperative complications were observed in 4 patients (16.0 %) and included wound infections (two patients), biliary fistula (one patient), delayed wound healing (one patient), and intraperitoneal abscess (one patient). No deaths were associated with resection.

#### Postoperative Adjuvant Chemotherapy

Among 25 patients who underwent liver resection (including one patient who underwent liver resection after four cycles of chemotherapy) (Fig. 1), 11 patients received adjuvant chemotherapy (FOLFOX plus BV in three cases; FOLFOX in five cases; CapeOX in one case, and UFT plus leucovorin in two cases).

#### DISCUSSION

There is no consensus regarding the definition of the pretreatment judgment "difficult to resect (resection not optimal)." The recommendation of the European Expert Panel uses a three-category classification (resectable, resection not optimal, unresectable). "Resection not

optimal" is defined as cases with "a number of liver metastases ≥5," "a maximum liver metastasis focal diameter >5 cm," "synchronous liver metastasis," "positive metastasis to lymph nodes around the primary tumor," "high tumor marker levels," and "a tumor located near the hepatic vein and bilateral portal veins." 18 Clinical studies in patients with "resection not optimal" liver-only metastases of colorectal cancer include the bevacizumab, oxaliplatin, xeloda in unresectable liver metastases (BOXER), 15 cetuximab in neoadjuvant treatment of nonresectable colorectal liver metastases (CELIM), 13,14 and preoperative chemotherapy for hepatic resection (POCHER) studies.<sup>16</sup> The criteria for a "resection not optimal" judgment in the BOXER Study were a "maximum diameter >5, number≥5, technically difficult to resect, and synchronous liver metastasis." The criteria adopted in CELIM were a "maximum diameter >5 cm and technically difficult to resect." In the POCHER Study, the criteria were a "maximum diameter >5, number  $\geq 5$ , and the presence of invasion into the hepatic hilum or extrahepatic metastasis."16

The curative hepatectomy and hepatectomy rates in previous studies were 27 % and 40 %, respectively, in the BOXER Study<sup>15</sup> and 38 and 50.9 %, respectively (including RFA) in the CELIM Study (FOLFOX6 plus Cmab Group).<sup>13</sup> In the present study, the curative hepatectomy rate (R0 resection rate) was 44.4 % and the hepatectomy rate was 53.3 %, similar to the results of previous studies.

There were no cases in which a "resectable" judgment before treatment (n = 19) became an "unresectable" judgment after treatment. Therefore, we can state that the application of this therapy for initial resectable or unresectable cases is unlikely to deprive patients of the opportunity to undergo hepatectomy. In the European Organization for the Research and Treatment of Cancer (EORTC) 40983 study (a phase III clinical trial), which was designed to compare a perioperative chemotherapy (FOFOX4) group with a surgery alone group among patients with resectable liver metastases of colorectal cancer (number of metastases ≤4), preoperative chemotherapy changed "resectable" metastases to "unresectable" metastases in slightly more than 10 % of the perioperative therapy group (23 of 182 cases). 11 In the present study, the addition of BV to mFOLFOX6 therapy likely avoided changes of resectable metastases to unresectable metastases during chemotherapy. Based on these results, it is expected that six preoperative mFOLFOX6 plus BV therapy cycles does not decrease the liver resection rate.

Regarding prognosis, the BOXER study reported a 1-year progression-free survival and overall survival rates of 50 and 86 %, respectively. <sup>15</sup> In the CELIM study, the median progression-free and overall survival durations

were 11.2 and 35.7 months, respectively.<sup>13</sup> The prognosis of patients enrolled in this study will be reported according to the final analysis, which is planned after a 3-year follow-up.

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#### **ORIGINAL ARTICLE**

### Differences in attitude toward adjuvant chemotherapy between colorectal cancer survivors and the medical staff of Japanese hospitals

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#### **Abstract**

Background Adding oxaliplatin to fluorouracil-based chemotherapy can improve the survival of patients with stage III colorectal cancer by approximately 20 %. Reportedly, cancer patients are much more likely to prefer chemotherapy than medical professionals, although there is only a very small chance of achieving benefits from treatment. However, chronic neurotoxicity may be long lasting after the administration of oxaliplatin-based chemotherapy. This study aimed to evaluate potential side effects and differences in attitude between colorectal cancer patients and medical staff regarding the risk-benefit trade-offs of chemotherapy.

Methods Relapse-free colorectal cancer patients who received adjuvant chemotherapy, doctors, and nurses were surveyed using a questionnaire regarding the side effects of chemotherapy and hypothetical clinical scenarios to quantify gains in the risk of relapse that were deemed necessary to make chemotherapy worthwhile.

Results Responses were obtained from 147 patients, 54 doctors, and 84 nurses. Of these, 39 % of patients and 85 % of doctors replied that moderate side effects of adjuvant chemotherapy were worthwhile to achieve an absolute

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K. Komori · K. Kimura · T. Kinoshita Department of Gastroenterological Surgery, Aichi Cancer Center Hospital, 1–1 Kanokoden, Chikusa-ku, Nagoya, Aichi, Japan gain in the risk of relapse of 10 % from a baseline of 40 %. More severe side effects, as reported by colorectal cancer patients, were not associated with the larger gains necessary to make treatment worthwhile. Seven percent of patients treated with oxaliplatin, 40 % of doctors, and 43 % of nurses replied that side effects associated with oxaliplatin-based chemotherapy were severe.

Conclusions Doctors should consider potential heterogeneity in side effects and attitudes regarding the risk-benefit balance of adjuvant chemotherapy, and that patient perspectives should enhance shared decision-making.

**Keywords** Adjuvant chemotherapy · Colorectal cancer · Patients' attitudes

#### Introduction

Colorectal cancer is the fourth leading cause of cancerrelated death: it resulted in an estimated 694,000 deaths worldwide in 2012 [1]. Of the total number of patients who receive curative surgery alone, 40-50 % eventually relapse and die from metastatic disease [2]. Therefore, adjuvant chemotherapy after curative resection is the standard treatment for stage III colorectal cancer. Oxaliplatin-based chemotherapy regimens are administered worldwide following the recommendations of Western randomized clinical trials, which demonstrated that the addition of oxaliplatin to fluorouracil (FU)-based chemotherapy improved disease-free survival and overall survival in patients with stage III colon cancer by approximately 20 % [3-5]. However, the results of a Japanese randomized clinical trial of FU alone demonstrated a 5-year disease-free survival rate of 71.3 %, which was better than the rates reported in Western clinical trials. Moreover, oxaliplatin is highly toxic to



the peripheral nervous system and can cause long-term chronic neurotoxicity [6, 7]. Consequently, in Japan, considering the expected benefits and increased side effects, no consensus has been reached as to whether oxaliplatin-containing regimens should be administered to all patients with stage III colorectal cancer.

Choosing an adjuvant treatment is difficult because of the complex nature of probabilistic information, and the benefits and side effects are not equally apparent to individual patients. Cancer patients are much more likely to prefer intensive chemotherapy for its very small chance of being beneficial than medical and nursing professionals are [8]. However, there are few reports on the differences between patients with colorectal cancer and medical professionals regarding their views on adjuvant chemotherapy. The present study aimed to evaluate the quality of life (QOL) and extent of side effects in colorectal cancer survivors who received different regimens of adjuvant chemotherapy to discern differences in the awareness of side effects between patients and hospital staff, and to compare treatment preferences of doctors and nurses in Japan.

#### Patients and methods

#### Patients and medical staffs

We conducted a retrospective cohort study of relapse-free patients (age >20 years) who received adjuvant chemotherapy at Aichi Cancer Center Hospital between May 2005 and August 2012 for stage II, III, or IV colorectal cancer according to the guidelines of the Union for International Cancer Control TNM staging system (7th edition). The respondents to the questionnaires included doctors and nurses from the oncology departments of four hospitals (Aichi Cancer Center Hospital, Shizuoka Cancer Center Hospital, Nagoya Kyoritu Hospital, and Fujita Health University School of Medicine).

#### Data collection

Office workers, who were non-medical staff employees, telephoned eligible patients and asked whether they would be willing to participate in this study. Those who agreed to participate received anonymous questionnaires by mail. The returned surveys were reviewed and tallied. The institutional review board of each institution approved the study protocol.

#### Questionnaire

The questionnaires distributed to the patients, doctors, and nurses consisted of the following five sections. (1)

The official Japanese version of the health-related QOL (HRQOL)-EQ-5D questionnaire [9], which consists of five dimensions of health: mobility, self-care, usual activities, pain/discomfort, and anxiety/depression. Each dimension comprises three levels: no problems, some/moderate problems, extreme problems. (2) Peripheral sensitivity and neurotoxicity were assessed using a self-reported neurotoxicity instrument (NTX score). The study participants were required to complete the Functional Assessment of Cancer Therapy/Gynecologic Oncology Group (FACT/GOG) subscale questionnaire [10] regarding oxaliplatin-specific neurotoxicity, which consisted of the following 13 items: numbness or tingling in the hands or feet, discomfort in the hands or feet, arthralgia or muscle cramps, general overall asthenia, hearing loss, tinnitus, difficulty with buttoning clothing, difficulty with feeling the shape of small objects, dysbasia, pain in the hands/feet when exposed to cold temperatures, and dyspnea when exposed to cold. NTX was scored using a 5-point scale (0-4) for each of the 13 items. (3) How would you rate nausea, anorexia, diarrhea, handfoot syndrome, sensory neuropathy, and alopecia (either "not as bad," "almost the same," or "worse") compared to what you expected? (4) How would you rate the degree of total side effects caused by adjuvant chemotherapy? To patients: evaluate the actual degree of total side effects as mild, moderate, or severe; to doctors and nurses: evaluate the side effects of treatment as mild, moderate, or severe. (5) To patients, doctors, and nurses: if the absolute reduction in recurrence risk is 1, 3, 5, 10, or 20 %, which adjuvant chemotherapy would you rather receive? There were three baseline recurrence risk levels (10, 25, and 40 %) by three total degrees of side effects (mild, moderate, and severe).

#### Data analysis

Statistical analyses of HRQOL scores were performed using the Wilcoxon rank sum test. Differences between chemotherapy regimens with and without oxaliplatin with a mean of >0.08 were considered clinically meaningful. The same analyses were performed to evaluate NTX scores, for which a meaningful clinical difference was defined as a difference with a mean of >4.

Linear regression analysis was performed to identify associations between potential predictive variables and patient preference for chemotherapy. The analyses were based on a total risk reduction benefit (TRB) score, which was the sum of the baseline recurrence risk (10, 25, or 40 %) and the additional rate considered to increase this score through chemotherapy by three degrees of side effects (mild, moderate, or severe). The inclinations for benefit demonstrated at the three baseline recurrence risk levels were identical and were therefore combined into

one overall benefit variable. The results for the TRB scores were skewed, so they were transformed for normalization. Patient and disease factors to predict individual preferences were assessed using Pearson's correlation matrix, in which the outcome was a normalized TRB score. A two-sided probability (p) value of <0.05 was considered significant. All statistical analyses were performed using R software version 2.13.2 (R Project for Statistical Computing, Vienna, Austria).

#### Results

#### Patient characteristics

Of the 167 eligible patients, 20 did not participate or respond, resulting in a participation rate of 88 %. Patient characteristics are summarized in Table 1. The median patient age was 62 years (range 24–78 years) and 49 % were male. Of the 147 patients included, 27 (18 %) were treated with oxaliplatin-based chemotherapy, 120 (82 %) were married, and 75 (51 %) participated in a randomized clinical trial. The numbers of doctors and nurses who participated were 54 and 82, respectively. The participating doctors and nurses had a mean of 12 years of experience.

#### HRQOL and NTX scores of patients

The difference in the mean HRQOL scores of patients treated with and without oxaliplatin was significant (0.873 and 0.946, respectively; p < 0.01). However, the difference between both groups was less than the clinically meaningful difference (0.08 point) that we previously defined. The mean NTX scores of patients treated with and without oxaliplatin were 7.9 and 1.8, respectively, and the difference between these scores exceeded the threshold of 4 points, as defined in advance for a clinically meaningful difference. For analysis limited to patients who received surgery more than 2 years beforehand, the mean NTX scores of patients treated with and without oxaliplatin were 4.1 and 1.8, respectively (p < 0.05). However, the difference between both groups was less than the clinically meaningful difference of 4 points that was defined beforehand.

#### Adverse events in patients

Adverse events experienced by patients during chemotherapy, graded as either severe, moderate, or mild, are summarized in Fig. 1. A total of 40 (33 %) patients in the non-oxaliplatin group and 13 (48 %) in the oxaliplatin group reported moderate to severe nausea following chemotherapy (p=0.15). Moreover, significantly more patients experienced moderate to severe neuropathy due to

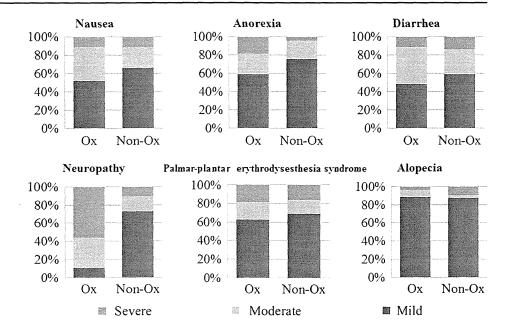
Table 1 Patient characteristics

| N = 147         Age, years       Median       62         Range       24–78         Gender (n)       75         Female       72         Male       75         Primary site  | Table 1 Fatient characteristics |           |
|--|---------------------------------|-----------|
| Median       62         Range       24–78         Gender (n)       72         Female       75         Male       75         Primary site       75         Cc-Rs       91         Ra-Rb       56         Stage (TNM 7th ed.)       11         II       6         IIIA       21         IIIB       94         IIIC       14         IV       12         Stage (JPN 6th ed.)       8         II       6         IIIa       6         IIIa       96         IIIb       96         IIIb       96         IIIb       96         IIIb       96         IIIb       33         IV       12         Years after surgery       Median       2.81         Average       3.07         Range       0.62–7.92         Chemotherapy regimen       UFT       12         SFU/LV       10         UFT/LV       26         Capecitabine       40         S-1       32         mFOLFOX6       9 |                                 | N = 147   |
| Range       24–78         Gender (n)       72         Male       75         Primary site       72         Ce-Rs       91         Ra-Rb       56         Stage (TNM 7th ed.)       11         III       6         IIIA       21         IIIB       94         IIIC       14         IV       12         Stage (JPN 6th ed.)       1         II       6         IIIa       96         IIIb       33         IV       12         Years after surgery       Median       2.81         Mecrage       3.07         Range       0.62–7.92         Chemotherapy regimen       UFT       12         SFU/LV       10         UFT/LV       26         Capecitabine       40         S-1       32         mFOLFOX6       9         CapeOX       18         Marital status         Married       120         Unmarried       7         Divorced       6         Widowed       11        | Age, years                      |           |
| Gender (n)       72         Female       75         Male       75         Primary site   | Median                          | 62        |
| Female       72         Male       75         Primary site   | Range                           | 24-78     |
| Male       75         Primary site       91         Ce-Rs       91         Ra-Rb       56         Stage (TNM 7th ed.)       1         II       6         IIIA       21         IIIB       94         IIIC       14         IV       12         Stage (JPN 6th ed.)       1         II       6         IIIa       96         IIIb       33         IV       12         Years after surgery       Wdian         Median       2.81         Average       3.07         Range       0.62–7.92         Chemotherapy regimen       UFT         UFT       12         SFU/LV       10         UFT/LV       26         Capecitabine       40         S-1       32         mFOLFOX6       9         CapeOX       18         Married       120         Unmarried       7         Divorced       6         Widowed       11   | Gender (n)                      |           |
| Primary site       Ce-Rs       91         Ra-Rb       56         Stage (TNM 7th ed.)       II         II       6         IIIA       21         IIIB       94         IIIC       14         IV       12         Stage (JPN 6th ed.)       II         II       6         IIIa       96         IIIb       33         IV       12         Years after surgery       Median       2.81         Average       3.07         Range       0.62–7.92         Chemotherapy regimen       UFT       12         UFT/LV       10         UFT/LV       26         Capecitabine       40         S-I       32         mFOLFOX6       9         CapeOX       18         Married       120         Unmarried       7         Divorced       6         Widowed       11  | Female                          | 72        |
| Cc-Rs       91         Ra-Rb       56         Stage (TNM 7th ed.)          II       6         IIIA       21         IIIB       94         IIC       14         IV       12         Stage (JPN 6th ed.)       6         II       6         IIIa       96         IIIb       33         IV       12         Years after surgery       Median       2.81         Average       3.07         Range       0.62–7.92         Chemotherapy regimen       UFT       12         UFT/LV       10         UFT/LV       26         Capecitabine       40         S-1       32         mFOLFOX6       9         CapeOX       18         Marital status       Married       120         Unmarried       7         Divorced       6         Widowed       11  | Male                            | 75        |
| Ra-Rb       56         Stage (TNM 7th ed.)       6         III       6         IIIA       21         IIIB       94         IIIC       14         IV       12         Stage (JPN 6th ed.)       6         III       6         IIIa       96         IIIb       33         IV       12         Years after surgery       Years after surgery         Median       2.81         Average       3.07         Range       0.62–7.92         Chemotherapy regimen       UFT         UFT       12         SFU/LV       10         UFT/LV       26         Capecitabine       40         S-1       32         mFOLFOX6       9         CapeOX       18         Marital status       Married       120         Unmarried       7         Divorced       6         Widowed       11   | Primary site                    |           |
| Stage (TNM 7th ed.)         II       6         IIIA       21         IIIB       94         IIIC       14         IV       12         Stage (JPN 6th ed.)       6         III       6         IIIa       96         IIIb       33         IV       12         Years after surgery       Years after surgery         Median       2.81         Average       3.07         Range       0.62–7.92         Chemotherapy regimen       UFT         UFT       12         SFU/LV       10         UFT/LV       26         Capecitabine       40         S-1       32         mFOLFOX6       9         CapeOX       18         Marital status       120         Unmarried       7         Divorced       6         Widowed       11   | Ce-Rs                           | 91        |
| II       6         IIIA       21         IIIB       94         IIIC       14         IV       12         Stage (JPN 6th ed.)       II         II       6         IIIa       96         IIIb       33         IV       12         Years after surgery       Median       2.81         Average       3.07         Range       0.62–7.92         Chemotherapy regimen       UFT       12         UFT/LV       10         UFT/LV       26         Capecitabine       40         S-1       32         mFOLFOX6       9         CapeOX       18         Marital status       Married       120         Unmarried       7         Divorced       6         Widowed       11   | Ra-Rb                           | 56        |
| IIIA       21         IIIB       94         IIIC       14         IV       12         Stage (JPN 6th ed.)       6         III       6         IIIa       96         IIIb       33         IV       12         Years after surgery       Years after surgery         Median       2.81         Average       3.07         Range       0.62–7.92         Chemotherapy regimen       UFT         UFT       12         SFU/LV       10         UFT/LV       26         Capecitabine       40         S-1       32         mFOLFOX6       9         CapeOX       18         Marital status       120         Unmarried       7         Divorced       6         Widowed       11  | Stage (TNM 7th ed.)             |           |
| IIIB       94         IIIC       14         IV       12         Stage (JPN 6th ed.)          II       6         IIIa       96         IIIb       33         IV       12         Years after surgery          Median       2.81         Average       3.07         Range       0.62–7.92         Chemotherapy regimen          UFT       12         SFU/LV       10         UFT/LV       26         Capecitabine       40         S-1       32         mFOLFOX6       9         CapeOX       18         Marital status          Married       120         Unmarried       7         Divorced       6         Widowed       11   | II                              | 6         |
| IIIC       14         IV       12         Stage (JPN 6th ed.)  | IIIA                            | 21        |
| IV       12         Stage (JPN 6th ed.)  | IIIB                            | 94        |
| Stage (JPN 6th ed.)       II       6         III       96       1IIIb       33         IV       12       12         Years after surgery       Wedian       2.81         Average       3.07       2.81         Range       0.62–7.92         Chemotherapy regimen       UFT       12         5FU/LV       10       10         UFT/LV       26       2         Capecitabine       40       8         S-1       32       mFOLFOX6       9         CapeOX       18         Marital status       120         Unmarried       7         Divorced       6         Widowed       11  | IIIC                            | 14        |
| III       6         IIIa       96         IIIb       33         IV       12         Years after surgery       3.07         Median       2.81         Average       3.07         Range       0.62–7.92         Chemotherapy regimen       12         UFT       12         SFU/LV       10         UFT/LV       26         Capecitabine       40         S-1       32         mFOLFOX6       9         CapeOX       18         Married       120         Unmarried       7         Divorced       6         Widowed       11   | IV                              | 12        |
| IIIa       96         IIIb       33         IV       12         Years after surgery       3.07         Median       2.81         Average       3.07         Range       0.62–7.92         Chemotherapy regimen       12         UFT       12         5FU/LV       10         UFT/LV       26         Capecitabine       40         S-I       32         mFOLFOX6       9         CapeOX       18         Married       120         Unmarried       7         Divorced       6         Widowed       11   | Stage (JPN 6th ed.)             |           |
| IIIb       33         IV       12         Years after surgery       3.07         Median       2.81         Average       3.07         Range       0.62–7.92         Chemotherapy regimen       12         UFT       12         5FU/LV       10         UFT/LV       26         Capecitabine       40         S-I       32         mFOLFOX6       9         CapeOX       18         Marital status       120         Unmarried       7         Divorced       6         Widowed       11  | П                               | 6         |
| IV       12         Years after surgery       3.07         Median       2.81         Average       3.07         Range       0.62–7.92         Chemotherapy regimen       12         UFT       12         5FU/LV       10         UFT/LV       26         Capecitabine       40         S-1       32         mFOLFOX6       9         CapeOX       18         Marital status       Married         Unmarried       7         Divorced       6         Widowed       11  | IIIa                            | 96        |
| Years after surgery       Xears         Median       2.81         Average       3.07         Range       0.62–7.92         Chemotherapy regimen       1         UFT       12         5FU/LV       10         UFT/LV       26         Capecitabine       40         S-1       32         mFOLFOX6       9         CapeOX       18         Marital status       Married         Unmarried       7         Divorced       6         Widowed       11  | IIIb                            | 33        |
| Median       2.81         Average       3.07         Range       0.62–7.92         Chemotherapy regimen       UFT         UFT       12         SFU/LV       10         UFT/LV       26         Capecitabine       40         S-1       32         mFOLFOX6       9         CapeOX       18         Marrial status       Married       120         Unmarried       7         Divorced       6         Widowed       11  | IV                              | 12        |
| Average       3.07         Range       0.62–7.92         Chemotherapy regimen       12         UFT       12         5FU/LV       10         UFT/LV       26         Capecitabine       40         S-1       32         mFOLFOX6       9         CapeOX       18         Married status       120         Unmarried       7         Divorced       6         Widowed       11   | Years after surgery             |           |
| Range       0.62–7.92         Chemotherapy regimen       12         UFT       12         SFU/LV       10         UFT/LV       26         Capecitabine       40         S-1       32         mFOLFOX6       9         CapeOX       18         Marrial status       120         Unmarried       7         Divorced       6         Widowed       11  | Median                          | 2.81      |
| Chemotherapy regimen       12         UFT       12         5FU/LV       10         UFT/LV       26         Capecitabine       40         S-1       32         mFOLFOX6       9         CapeOX       18         Marrial status       40         Married       120         Unmarried       7         Divorced       6         Widowed       11   | Average                         | 3.07      |
| UFT 12  SFU/LV 10  UFT/LV 26  Capecitabine 40  S-1 32  mFOLFOX6 9  CapeOX 18  Marital status  Married 120  Unmarried 7  Divorced 6  Widowed 11   | Range                           | 0.62-7.92 |
| SFU/LV         10           UFT/LV         26           Capecitabine         40           S-1         32           mFOLFOX6         9           CapeOX         18           Marital status         120           Unmarried         7           Divorced         6           Widowed         11   | Chemotherapy regimen            |           |
| UFT/LV       26         Capecitabine       40         S-1       32         mFOLFOX6       9         CapeOX       18         Marital status       32         Married       120         Unmarried       7         Divorced       6         Widowed       11  | UFT                             | 12        |
| Capecitabine       40         S-1       32         mFOLFOX6       9         CapcOX       18         Marital status       120         Unmarried       7         Divorced       6         Widowed       11   | 5FU/LV                          | 10        |
| S-I       32         mFOLFOX6       9         CapeOX       18         Marital status       120         Unmarried       7         Divorced       6         Widowed       11   | UFT/LV                          | 26        |
| mFOLFOX6         9           CapeOX         18           Marital status         120           Unmarried         7           Divorced         6           Widowed         11  | Capecitabine                    | 40        |
| CapeOX       18         Marital status       120         Unmarried       7         Divorced       6         Widowed       11   | S-1                             | 32        |
| Marital status Married 120 Unmarried 7 Divorced 6 Widowed 11   | mFOLFOX6                        | 9         |
| Married       120         Unmarried       7         Divorced       6         Widowed       11  | CapeOX                          | 18        |
| Unmarried         7           Divorced         6           Widowed         11  | Marital status                  |           |
| Divorced 6 Widowed 11  | Married                         | 120       |
| Widowed 11   | Unmarried                       | 7         |
|  | Divorced                        | 6         |
|  | Widowed                         | 11        |
| No response 3  | No response                     | 3         |
| Education  | Education                       |           |
| Less than high school 18   | Less than high school           | 18        |
| High school 66   |                                 | 66        |
| College degree or higher 45  | College degree or higher        | 45        |
| No response 18   | No response                     | 18        |
| Household income, yen  |                                 |           |
| <3 million 36  | <3 million                      | 36        |
| >3, <6 million 54  | >3, <6 million                  | 54        |
| >6, <9 million 22  | >6, <9 million                  |           |
| >9 million 29  | >9 million                      | 29        |

CapeOX cepecitabine + oxaliplatin, Ce cecum, FU fluorouracil, JPN 6th ed. 6th edition of the Japanese Classification of Colorectal Carcinoma, LV leucovorin, mFOLFOX6 modified FOLFOX-6 (fluoruracil + leucovorin + oxaliplatin), Ra-Rb rectum, Rs rectosigmoid, TNM 7th ed. 7th edition of the Union for International Cancer Control TNM Staging System, UFT uracil and tegafur



**Fig. 1** Adverse events for patients



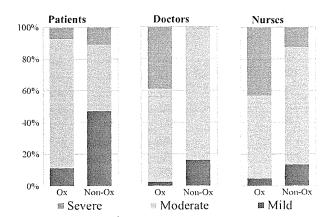


Fig. 2 Degree of chemotherapy-induced total side effects

oxaliplatin-based chemotherapy [24 (88 %) vs. 28 (29 %); p < 0.05]. The results for the degree of total side effects due to chemotherapy are shown in Fig. 2. Moderate side effects were reported by 22 (81 %) patients treated with oxaliplatin. However, 2 (7 %) patients treated with oxaliplatin, 14 (40 %) doctors, and 28 (43 %) nurses considered oxaliplatin-associated side effects to be severe (p < 0.05).

# Attitudes of patients and medical staff toward chemotherapy

Responses by patients and medical staff to the items in the questionnaire are shown in Fig. 3. Of the patients treated with adjuvant chemotherapy, 39 % achieved a reduction in the risk of relapse of 10 % (from 40 to 30 %:  $40 \rightarrow 30$  %) when the degree of chemotherapy-induced side effects was

moderate. However, under the same circumstances (from 40 to 30 %:  $40 \rightarrow 30$  %), 85 % of the doctors replied that they would prescribe chemotherapy (p < 0.01). Twenty patients (14 %) replied that they would accept chemotherapy for the case of "from 40 to 39 %" while 20 (14 %) would not accept chemotherapy for the case of "from 40 to 20 %" for a moderate degree of side effects. The motivation reported by the doctors in the case of "from 40 to 30 %" was 85 %, higher than that in the case of "from 25 to 20 %" (61 %), which was the same level reported by the patients.

As shown in Table 2, the TRB score did not tend to be associated with potential predictors. In cases with chemotherapy-induced severe side effects, females had greater risk reduction benefits. The patients who experienced severe side effects due to adjuvant chemotherapy did not require greater benefits to consider chemotherapy worthwhile.

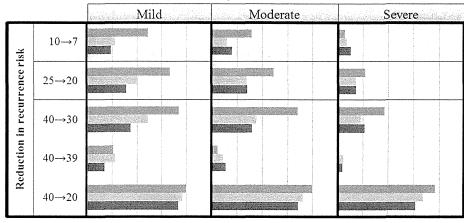
#### Discussion

There were three major findings in this study. First, the motivation of patients with colorectal cancer was not challenged by the doctors. Second, the more severe side effects experienced by colorectal cancer patients were not associated with judgment that larger gains were necessary to make treatment worthwhile. Finally, most patients who received oxaliplatin-containing regimens considered their side effects to be moderate, whereas many doctors assessed them to be severe.

To the best of our knowledge, this is the first report showing that patients were more motivated to receive



Fig. 3 Attitudes toward chemotherapy



0% 25% 50% 75%100% 0% 25% 50% 75%100% 0% 25% 50% 75%100%

Doctors

Nurses

Patients

 Table 2
 Correlation between

 the total risk reduction benefit

 and the predictor

|                                 | Mild  |      | Moderate |      | Severe |      |
|---------------------------------|-------|------|----------|------|--------|------|
|                                 | γ     | P    | γ        | P    | γ      | P    |
| Age at interview                | 0.07  | 0.39 | -0.02    | 0.84 | -0.14  | 0.08 |
| Gender                          | 0.05  | 0.57 | 0.11     | 0.18 | 0.18   | 0.03 |
| Primary site                    | 0.00  | 0.96 | 0.03     | 0.69 | 0.09   | 0.29 |
| Stage (TNM 7th ed.)             | -0.10 | 0.24 | -0.15    | 0.06 | -0.07  | 0.38 |
| Years after surgery             | 0.13  | 0.11 | 0.11     | 0.20 | -0.03  | 0.72 |
| Chemotherapy regimen            | 0.03  | 0.70 | 0.03     | 0.72 | 0.03   | 0.76 |
| Marital status                  | -0.02 | 0.84 | -0.01    | 0.94 | 0.01   | 0.89 |
| Children at interview           | 0.04  | 0.63 | -0.02    | 0.85 | 0.00   | 0.95 |
| Education                       | -0.08 | 0.38 | 0.03     | 0.77 | 0.13   | 0.12 |
| Household income, yen           | -0.13 | 0.12 | 0.07     | 0.45 | -0.03  | 0.77 |
| Employment status               | -0.08 | 0.31 | -0.05    | 0.52 | 0.04   | 0.62 |
| Randomized clinical trial       | -0.13 | 0.11 | -0.10    | 0.24 | -0.06  | 0.47 |
| HRQOL score                     | -0.06 | 0.45 | 0.00     | 0.98 | 0.06   | 0.46 |
| NTX score                       | -0.09 | 0.27 | -0.09    | 0.31 | -0.12  | 0.17 |
| Total side effects for patients | -0.13 | 0.12 | -0.13    | 0.12 | -0.12  | 0.14 |

TNM 7th ed. 7th edition of the Union for International Cancer Control TNM Staging System

adjuvant chemotherapy than doctors were to prescribe it. These results conflict with the findings of previous studies [8, 11], in which cancer patients tended to perceive greater benefits from chemotherapy than doctors. These discrepancies may be partly explained by differences in study methods and ethical considerations.

Our hypothesis that patient characteristics, especially more severe side effects, would affect the attitude that the benefits of chemotherapy were worthwhile was not supported. Our result that gender influenced risk reduction benefits only in the case of severe chemotherapy seems to conflict with the findings of a previous report [12]. However, these findings are compatible with the heterogeneity of preferences for chemotherapy seen in previous reports

[11–14]. Furthermore, our findings confirmed that more detailed discussions regarding individualized treatment regimens are important prior to adjuvant chemotherapy to assist in shared decision-making.

No clinically meaningful difference in NTX scores was observed among patients who received surgery more than 2 years previously. This result supports the view that there was no clinically significant long-term difference in NTX scores [7]. QOL, as assessed using the HRQOL score, was considered good regardless of the chemotherapy regimen, and peripheral sensory neuropathy may not reduce QOL to an extent deemed clinically meaningful. This result is in conflict with the views stated in a previous report [15]. Most patients who received oxaliplatin-based

chemotherapy considered the side effects to be moderate, whereas many doctors considered them to be severe. These results suggest that physicians overestimate peripheral sensory neuropathy in patients, and potential gaps exist in the judgment of severity of treatment-related toxicity between physicians and patients.

There were several limitations to this study. First, the colorectal cancer patients were treated at a single institute and free of recurrence. Second, approximately half of the patients were involved in clinical trials, which is not representative of patients treated for colorectal cancer in Japan, and they may have been highly motivated patients. Third, various regimens, such as S-1, capecitabine, uracil and tegafur/leucovorin (UFT/LV), and UFT alone were included in the non-oxaliplatin group, and those receiving CapOx and FOLFOX were included in the oxaliplatin group. Fourth, recollection biases may have become distorted with the passage of time because the start of chemotherapy varied among the study participants. It would be interesting to conduct a prospective, real-time evaluation of patients during the decision-making process.

In conclusion, the results of this survey suggest that doctors should consider the existence of potential heterogeneity of side effects and attitudes regarding the balance of risks and benefits in adjuvant chemotherapy, and the perspectives of patients should enhance shared decision-making.

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Conflict of interest The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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## 化学療法後に根治切除を行った腹膜播種を伴う根治切除不能あるいは 切除困難な進行・再発大腸癌症例の検討

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Estimation of Peritoneal Dissemination in Patients with Unresectable Advanced or Recurrent Colorectal Cancer who Underwent Curative Resection after Combination Chemotherapy: Shinori Mizota\*1, Satoshi Ikeda\*1, Masami Yamauchi\*2, Yuki Imaoka\*1, Hiroaki Mashima\*1, Sho Okimoto\*1, Yuji Takakura\*1, Midori Noma\*1, Masahiro Ohara\*1, Koichi Oishi\*1, Toshihiko Kohashi\*1, Yasuhiro Fudaba\*1, Tatsuro Ishimoto\*1, Yasuhiro Matsugu\*1, Hideki Nakahara\*1, Takashi Urushihara\*1, Katsunori Shinozaki\*2 and Toshiyuki Itamoto\*1 (\*1 Dept. of Digestive, Breast, Transplant Surgery, and \*2 Dept. of Clinical Oncology, Hiroshima Prefectural Hospital)

Summary

In a group of 209 colorectal cancer patients with unresectable tumors, 10 patients underwent curative resection after combination chemotherapy at our hospital between 2006 and 2012. Of these 10 patients, 5 presented with peritoneal dissemination at the start of chemotherapy. With the exception of 1 patient with peritoneal recurrence, peritoneal dissemination and liver metastasis were observed in all patients at the time of diagnosis of colorectal cancer. Computed tomography (CT) and/or positron emission tomography-CT examination revealed disappearance of peritoneal dissemination in response to chemotherapy, except in 1 patient with peritoneal recurrence. After combination chemotherapy, surgical resection of liver metastases and peritoneal dissemination was performed. Pathological and intraoperative findings indicated disappearance of peritoneal dissemination in 3 patients and P2 grade peritoneal dissemination in 1 patient. In the patient with peritoneal recurrence, 1 tumor was completely resected. Interestingly, none of the 3 patients that exhibited complete disappearance of peritoneal dissemination showed peritoneal recurrence, although 1 patient exhibited metastases in the lung and non-regional lymph nodes. In contrast, the patient with P2 grade peritoneal dissemination showed peritoneal recurrence and lung metastasis. All 5 patients survived (duration from diagnosis of colorectal cancer, 31-83 months). Herein, we report the use of combination chemotherapy to achieve the disappearance of peritoneal dissemination, changing unresectable colorectal cancer with peritoneal dissemination into resectable cancer. Key words: Peritoneal dissemination, Unresectable, Colorectal cancer (*Received Apr. 15, 2013/Accepted Sep. 26, 2013*)

要旨 当院で2006~2012年に根治切除不能または切除困難な進行・再発大腸癌として化学療法が導入された209例中,根治切除が可能となった症例は10例であった。そのうち,化学療法開始時に腹膜播種が存在した症例は5例であった。原発巣根治切除後の腹膜再発の1例を除き,4例は原発巣切除時に腹膜播種が存在し同時性肝転移を伴っていた。化学療法導入後に肝転移切除・腹膜播種切除が行われた。腹膜再発の1例を除き,4例は術前画像診断でP0となっていた。手術時所見は3例で腹膜播種が消失し、1例はP2であった。腹膜再発の1例は画像診断どおり1か所の腹膜再発であった。腹膜播種がCRとなって消失していた3例中1例は他臓器転移が出現したが、3例とも腹膜再発は認めていない。一方,P2であった症例は術後9か月目に腹膜再発と肺転移を来した。大腸癌診断時からの生存期間は31~83か月で、全例生存中である。多剤併用化学療法により、腹膜播種が消失し根治切除手術可能となる症例が存在することが明らかとなった。

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#### はじめに

化学療法の進歩に伴い切除不能進行再発大腸癌が切除可能となる症例が増加し、その予後改善が期待されている。そのなかで肝転移についての conversion 症例の報告は散見されるが<sup>1)</sup>、その他の切除不能因子、特に腹膜播種についての報告は少ない。本稿では、われわれが経験した化学療法による conversion 症例のうち、腹膜播種・再発を評価し得た 5 例について報告する。

#### I. 対 象

2006年4月~2012年3月に当院臨床腫瘍科で大腸癌に対する化学療法を導入した282例を対象とした(図1)。当院では点滴・静注の化学療法は臨床腫瘍科で、内服化学療法は外科外来で行っている。化学療法導入時に切除不能であった症例は209例であり、このうち14例がP1、8例がP2、13例がP3であった。化学療法導入後に外科的介入が行われた症例は17例で、根治切除可能であった症例10例、不能症例が7例であった。根治切除不能の内訳は、術中所見でP3を認めた症例1例、骨盤内リンパ節転移を認めた症例1例、イレウスや穿孔を来しストーマ造設を行った症例が5例であった。化学療法導入後に切除可能と判断し根治切除手術を施行した10例中、腹膜播種・再発を評価し得た5例を対象に解析を行った。

#### Ⅱ. 結 果

大腸癌診断時の平均年齢は56.2 (35~71) 歳で,男性3例,女性2例であった。全症例で化学療法導入前に原発巣切除が行われ、3例はイレウスのため緊急手術として行われていた。根治切除不能と判断した理由は、原発巣切除手術時に腹膜播種が存在した症例3例,腹膜播種および多発肝転移を認めた症例1例,原発巣切除後に腹

膜再発を来した症例が1例であった。この腹膜再発症例は、他に病変が出現しないか否かの経過をみるために化学療法が導入された。原発巣切除時に腹膜播種が存在していた4例全例で同時性肝転移を認めた(表1)。

化学療法の first-line は mFOLFOX6+ベバシヅマブ1例, mFOLFOX6 2例, XELOX+ベバシヅマブ1例, イリノテカン+セッキシマブが1例であった。化学療法導入後から根治切除手術が行われるまでの間に全例でオキサリプラチンが8コース以上投与され, オキサリプラチンまたはイリノテカンが平均17コース投与されていた。ベバシヅマブは3症例で平均15コース投与された。これらの違いは、時代的背景やその時期に行われていた臨床試験の違いなどによる。化学療法は最長で102コース(55か月),最短で17コース(8か月)施行された(表2)。

化学療法中、肝転移症例 4 例においては PET-CT などの画像検査で肝転移の縮小を認め、腹膜播種に関しては陰性と判断したため根治切除手術適応とし、肝転移の根治切除手術を施行した。術中所見で 3 例は腹膜播種が消失しており、1 例は大網に播種 (P2) を認めたが肉眼的完全切除を行った。肝転移は 3 例で縮小、1 例で増大していた。2 症例 9 病変においては病理学的に肝転移消失を確認した。腹膜再発の 1 例は、個数・大きさに変化がなかったため根治切除手術適応とした。術中所見で 1 個の腹膜播種を認めるのみで根治切除可能であった(表 3、4)。

2012 年 12 月現在,大腸癌診断後の平均観察期間は 64.8 (31~83) か月で全例が生存中で,3 例は無再発生存中である。根治切除手術時に腹膜播種が消失していた3 例は治療開始から5年以上の長期生存例で,そのうち2 例は術後補助的化学療法として sLV5FU2 を施行し無再発生存中である。残りの1 例は根治切除手術後3 か月目に大動脈周囲リンパ節、肺、縦隔リンパ節に転移を認め

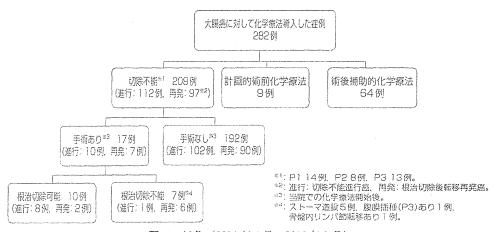


図 1 対象(2006年4月~2012年3月)

表 1 患者背景および原発巣切除時所見

| 症例  | 年齢 | 性別 | N   | Н | P         | M     | CY   | 原発巣切除          | <b>一个一个一个一个一个一个一个一个一个一个一个一个一个一个一个一个一个一个一个</b> |
|-----|----|----|-----|---|-----------|-------|------|----------------|---|
| (I) | 66 | М  | 2   | 2 | 3         | 0     | 不明*1 | +<br>(81x 44.) | 下行結腸切除, D2, RFA (肝 S4, 6)                     |
| 2   | 45 | M  | 3 . | 1 | 2         | 1 **2 | -    | (緊急)           | 高位前方切除,回腸人工肛門造設術                              |
| 3   | 64 | M  | 2   | 3 | 3         | 0     |      | (緊急)           | Hartmann 手術,D1+α                              |
| 4   | 35 | F  | 2   | 1 | 3(卵巣転移あり) | 0     | +    | (緊急)           | S 状結腸切除,D2.両側付属器切除                            |
| (5) | 71 | F  | 0   | 0 | 0(後に腹膜再発) | 0     |      | (待機)<br>+      | S 状結腸切除,D2                                    |
|     |    |    |     |   |           |       |      | (待機)           |   |

<sup>\*\*1:</sup> 前医で手術施行したため、\*\*2: No. 216 リンパ節転移

表 2 化学療法の内容

| 症例  | First-line  | コース |            |          | Third-line | コース  | Total | 化学療法開始~<br>手術(月) | 術後補助的<br>化学療法 |
|-----|-------------|-----|------------|----------|------------|--|-------|------------------|---------------|
| 1   | mFOLFOX6    | 10  | FOLFIRI+BV | 12       | FOLFIRI    | 4  | 26    | 36               |               |
| 2   | S-1+CPT-11  | 4   | mFOLFOX6   | 15       | sLV5FU2    | 5  | 24    | 17               | sLV5FU2       |
| 3   | mFOLFOX6    | 13  | sLV5FU2    | 89       | ~~~        | and the same of th | 102   | 55               | sLV5FU2       |
| 4   | XELOX+BV    | 17  |            | ******** | TT Charles | And address of   | 17    | 8                | sLV5FU2       |
| (5) | mFOLFOX6+BV | 10  | sLV5FU2+BV | 5        | sLV5FU2    | 3  | 18    | 10               | mFOLFOX6+BV   |

表 3 根治切除手術時所見 (腹膜播種)

| 症例  | 化学療法前<br>(診断方法)  | 根治切除術前<br>評価(診断方法)  | 術式                                 | CY      | 根治切除<br>術中所見         | 病理所見          |
|-----|------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|---------|----------------------|---------------|
| 1   | P3<br>(術中所見)     | P0<br>(CT)          | 肝 S5/6 亜区域切除,S4 部分切除,小腸部分切除        | ******* | P0                   |               |
| 2   | P2<br>(術中所見)     | P0<br>(CT)          | 肝部分切除(S2, 4, 5, 6, 7)              |         | P0                   | - manufacture |
| 3   | P3<br>(術中所見)     | P0<br>(CT)          | 肝左葉切除, 肝部分切除 (S5:2 か所, 6, 8)       |         | P0                   | _             |
| 4   | P3<br>(術中所見)     | P0<br>(PET-CT)      | 肝 S5 亚区域切除, 肝部分切除 (S2, 4, 7), 大網切除 | +       | P2 (大網)<br>(R0 切除施行) | P2            |
| (5) | 腹膜再発<br>(PET-CT) | 増大・増加なし<br>(PET-CT) | 腫瘍切除術                              | ******  | 腹膜再発<br>(R0 切除施行)    | 腹膜再発          |

表 4 根治切除手術時所見(肝転移)

| 症例  | 化学療法前<br>肝転移数 | 根治切除術前<br>肝転移数 | 根治切除不能あるいは困難因子 | 根治切除<br>肝転移数 | 病理学的<br>肝転移数 | 病理学的<br>CR 病変数 |
|-----|---------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|
| 1   | 2             | 2              | 腹膜播種           | 2            | 2            | 1              |
| 2   | 5             | 5              | 腹膜播種           | 5            | 5            | 0              |
| 3   | 40            | 4              | 腹膜播種および多発肝転移   | 9            | 9            | 8              |
| 4   | 2             | 8              | 腹膜播種           | 7            | 7            | 0              |
| (5) |               |                | 腹膜再発           |              |              |                |

術後化学療法(イリノテカン+セツキシマブ)を施行しているが、画像検査上腹膜再発は認められない。一方、 術中に腹膜播種の残存を認めた1例はRO切除と判断 し、術後補助的化学療法としてsLV5FU2を施行したが、 根治切除術後9か月目に腹膜再発と肺転移を認めている (表5)。

#### Ⅲ. 考察

今回われわれは、当院で経験した根治切除不能あるいは困難な進行・再発大腸癌で腹膜播種を伴うもののうち、化学療法後に根治切除可能となった症例を経験した。切除困難な進行・再発大腸癌とは、同時多発性肝転移症例

表 5 根治切除手術後の経過

| 症例         | 再発 | 手術~再発(月)                                | 再発部位                 |    | 転帰 | 診断~現在(月) | 手術~現在(月) |
|------------|----|---|----------------------|----|----|----------|----------|
| 1)         | あり | 2                                       | 大動脈周囲リンパ節,<br>縦隔リンパ節 | 肺, | 生存 | 83       | 38       |
| 2          | なし | *************************************** | William              |    | 生存 | 82       | 64       |
| 3          | なし | MARILLAN T                              | ********             |    | 生存 | 73       | 17       |
| <b>(4)</b> | あり | 9                                       | 腹. 肝                 |    | 生存 | 31       | 17       |
| (5)        | なし | housest                                 |                      |    | 生存 | 55       | 13       |

で予定残肝容量が30%に満たない程度の症例や,画像上 顕在化している腹膜播種は少数だが実際はより多数の腹 膜播種が予測される症例などである。腹膜播種について 画像検査で診断することは困難ではあるが、少なくとも 増加や増大がないことや、肝転移が著明に縮小したこと から化学療法の効果ありと判断した。

手術、全身化学療法、放射線治療を組み合わせた集学 的治療により切除不能進行再発大腸癌の予後は改善し、 生存期間中央値は約2年となっている2。しかし、腹膜 播種単独例でも生存期間中央値は19.5か月という報 告3)があり、腹膜播種を伴う大腸癌は一般に予後不良で ある。特に P3 症例では 5 年生存率が 0% という報告<sup>4)</sup> や、腹膜以外に転移がなくかつ原発巣を切除した症例で も 50% 生存期間が 12 か月と報告されているように<sup>51</sup>. 腹膜播種を伴う症例の予後は極めて不良である。一方, 腹膜播種が完全に切除された場合, 予後は非切除症例と 比べ良好であるとの報告もある<sup>6)</sup>。大腸癌取扱い規約第 7版では、腹膜転移を認める場合、それらを肉眼的にす べて切除した場合はROとし、根治度Bとして分類され る<sup>7</sup>。また、大腸癌治療ガイドライン 2010 年版では、腹 膜播種は「P1 は完全切除が望ましい」、「P2 で容易に切 除可能なものは完全切除を考慮する」と記載されてお り<sup>2)</sup>、完全切除によって治癒する可能性のある状態と考 えられている。

大腸癌化学療法の key drug は 5-FU, イリノテカン, オキサリプラチン, 分子標的薬剤の四つで, 前三者をすべて投与できた症例で生存期間の延長が示されている。 切除不能大腸癌を対象とした臨床試験では, 肝転移や肺転移に対するこれらの化学療法の検証がなされている一方で, 腹膜播種に関する報告は少ない。切除可能な程度の腹膜播種単独例では, オキサリプラチンやイリノテカンを用いた全身化学療法により生存期間中央値が23.9か月という報告がある。 また, 腹膜播種単独とは限らない播種を有する症例で, 全生存期間の中央値が5-FU 単独を用いた群で6.9か月, 5-FU とイリノテカンを用いた群で17.9か月であったと報告し, 腹膜播種に対するイリノテカンの有効性を示唆しているものもある10。しかし, 分子標的薬を含む最近の大腸癌化学療法

の腹膜播種に対する効果の検証,特に conversion chemotherapy に関する報告は極めて少ない。

本稿で示したように、自験例では化学療法により腹膜 播種が消失し根治切除が可能となった症例を3例経験し た。画像上腹膜播種が消失したと判断したが術中所見で P2 であった症例はその後に腹膜再発を来したのに対し, 根治切除手術時に腹膜播種が消失していた3例はその後 も腹膜再発を来していない点は興味深い。自験例ではこ のように、近年の抗腫瘍効果の高い化学療法を行えば腹 膜播種が消失する可能性が示された。また、腹膜播種が 消失した3例は全例で原発巣切除が化学療法前に施行さ れていた。腹膜播種のみならず、肝転移や肺転移を含め 切除不可能な遠隔転移を伴う, いわゆる切除不能大腸癌 の場合に原発巣を切除するか否かは未だに議論の的であ る。本邦でも日本臨床腫瘍研究グループ(Japan Clinical Oncology Group: JCOG) が治癒切除不能進行大腸癌に対 する原発巣切除の意義に関するランダム化比較試験 (JCOG1007) を行っており、閉塞や出血などの症状のな い切除不能大腸癌に対して化学療法前に原発巣を切除す ることの功罪について検証中である。これまでの報告で は、原発巣による症状がない場合に化学療法を第一治療 として行うことの合理性が示される110一方で、生存期間 の比較では化学療法導入前に原発巣切除を施行した場合 のほうが予後良好だという報告も認められる12.13)。自験 例からは、他臓器転移を伴う腹膜播種症例であっても、 原発巣切除とその後の抗腫瘍効果の高い化学療法が治癒 あるいは長期生存に寄与する可能性が示唆された。われ われはこれまで、原則として無症状の切除不能大腸癌に 対しては化学療法を優先させてきた。しかし今回の検証 後は、切除不能と判断した腹膜播種症例でもまず原発巣 切除とリンパ節郭清を行い、化学療法により腹膜播種の 消失をめざすという戦略に変更しつつある。集学的治療 の積み重ねとその検証、そして RCT による臨床試験の 結果が待たれる。

医学中央雑誌で検索した結果,全身化学療法を行い腹膜播種が消失した症例は6例報告されており<sup>14-19</sup>,自験例の3例と合わせた9例について検討した(表6)。化学療法の内容はオキサリプラチンを投与した症例6例,べ

表 6 化学療法後に腹膜播種が CR となった症例

| 報告者                 | 報告年  | 年齢 | 性別 | 原発<br>部位 | 組織型  | P分類 | P診断            | 播種の<br>時期 | 原発巣<br>切除 | 化学療法  | CR in   | 生存<br>期間*1 |
|---------------------|------|----|----|----------|------|-----|----------------|-----------|-----------|---|---------|------------|
| 田口ら四                | 2004 | 55 | 男性 | D        | tub2 | P3  | 術中所見           | 同時性       | あり        | S-17 コース  | 3コース    | 8か月        |
| 武元ら15)              | 2005 | 35 | 男性 | D        | tub2 | P3  | 術中所見           | 同時性       | あり        | CPT-11+S-13コース  | 3 コース   | 11 か月      |
| 久保ら16)              | 2007 | 59 | 男性 | А        | 腺癌   | P3  | 術中所見           | 同時性       | あり        | ① FOLFOX4 12 コース<br>② UFT                                   | 8 コース   | 15 か月      |
| 三松ら「プ               | 2008 | 70 | 女性 | С        | tub2 | P2  | 術中所見<br>(肝切除時) | 同時性       | あり        | UFT/LV 4 コース  | 4 コース   | 9 か月       |
| 石田ら18)              | 2008 | 83 | 女性 | Т        | 記載なし | Р3  | 術中所見           | 同時性       | なし        | ① mFOLFOX6 14 コース<br>② S-1 3 か月                             | 5コース    | 13 か月      |
| 長谷川ら <sup>19)</sup> | 2009 | 64 | 男性 | S        | 記載なし | P2  | 術中所見           | 同時性       | あり        | ① 5-FU+LV 3 コース<br>② mFOLFOX+BV 7 コース                       | 10 コース  | 11 か月      |
| 当科                  | 2012 | 66 | 男性 | T        | tubl | P3  | 術中所見           | 同時性       | あり        | ① mFOLFOX6 10 コース<br>② FOLFIRI+BV 12 コース<br>③ FOLFIRI 4 コース | 26 コース  | 83 か月      |
| 当科                  | 2012 | 45 | 男性 | S        | tubl | P2  | 術中所見           | 同時性       | あり        | ① S-1+CPT-11 4 コース<br>② mFOLFOX6 15 コース<br>③ sLV5FU2 5 コース  | 24 コース  | 82 か月      |
| 当科                  | 2012 | 64 | 男性 | RS       | tub2 | P3  | 術中所見           | 同時性       | あり        | ① mFOLFOX 13 コース<br>② LV5FU2 89 コース                         | 102 コース | 73 か月      |

<sup>\*\*1:</sup> 大腸癌診断から報告時まで

バシヅマブ投与例は2例であった。8例で原発巣切除を 施行しており、うち7例は化学療法前に行っている。リ ンパ節郭清は D1~D3 まで様々だった。平均生存期間は 32 か月で、われわれの3例は生存期間5年以上と予後の 改善が認められている。化学療法導入から腹膜播種消失 の診断までの期間は3~102 コースとばらつきがあり、 自験例の3例は化学療法を行った期間が長かった。これ は化学療法を行う臨床腫瘍科の判断であり、腹膜播種が 消失することを当初は予想していなかったことが原因に あげられる。腹膜播種症例に対してどの程度の期間の化 学療法が最適なのかは不明であるが、現在は院内カン ファレンスにより腹膜播種症例についてコンセンサスの 得られた治療方法を検討し、積極的に根治切除を考慮し ている。

近年の抗腫瘍効果の高い化学療法で腹膜播種の消失が 得られ、根治切除へ移行できる症例が存在することが明 らかとなった。化学療法の期間や手術タイミングなど不 明な点は多いが、腹膜播種も消失し得ることを念頭に置 いた集学的大腸癌治療が必要である。

#### おわりに

大腸癌腹膜播種症例に対して化学療法を行うことで腹 膜播種が消失し、根治切除への移行や長期予後が期待さ れ得る症例が存在することが示された。今後さらなる症 例の蓄積と検証が必要と考える。

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V. 改訂プロトコール (ver1.1)



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2014年8月25日

### 審查結果通知書

日本臨床腫瘍研究グループ Japan Clinical Oncology Group

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JCOG 効果・安全性評価委員会 委員長 西條長宏 (応認) 副委員長 宮北康二 (高麗)

受付番号

JCOG-DSMC-RP-1447 (2014年8月11日受領)

研究番号

JCOG1018 (JCOG 大腸がんグループ)

研究課題名

高齢切除不能進行大腸癌に対する全身化学療法に関するランダム化比較第Ⅲ相試

IE/o

審查事項

プロトコール改訂(ver.1.1)

上記の事項を、JCOG 効果・安全性評価委員会で審査致しました結果、以下の判定となりましたのでお知らせ致します。

委員会判定(迅速審査)

プロトコール改訂を承認する

プロトコールカバーページに JCOG 効果・安全性評価委員会の承認日および発効日を記載した プロトコール最新版(電子ファイル)を、JCOG 効果・安全性評価委員会事務局にご提出下さい。 平素より大変お世話になっております。JCOG1018「高齢切除不能進行大腸癌に対する全身化学療法に関するランダム化比較第Ⅲ相試験」のプロトコール改訂案を提出致します。

改訂理由については、それぞれのプロトコール改訂箇所に記しております。

本試験は米国の N0949 試験との共同試験でありましたが、NCCTG の研究者より、2013 年 5 月に N0949 試験が試験中止となったと報告がありました。今後データをどのように解析するかは NCCTG と交渉中であり、サンプルサイズの変更も含めて次回改訂に含める予定です。

ご審査の程、宜しくお願い申し上げます。

#### 改訂事項

- 1) 米国のN0949試験の中止に伴うPRO-CTCAEの評価中止について
- 2) 主たる解析対象集団の変更
- 3) Ccrが50 mL/min未満の場合のカペシタビンの投与について
- 4) 転移臓器個数の取り決めについて
- 5) 高血圧に関する治療規準の変更
- 6) オキサリプラチンによるアレルギーに関する記載の変更
- 7) 共用基準範囲の運用に伴う治療変更規準の変更
- 8) B型肝炎再活性化予防のための支持療法の記載の変更
- 9) 登録方法の更新
- 10) その他の変更箇所
- 11) 研究者情報、定型記載の更新
- 12) モデル説明同意文書

JCOG 大腸がんグループ代表者/JCOG1018 研究代表者 高知医療センター 島田安博
JCOG1018 研究事務局 国立がん研究センター中央病院 濱口哲弥

国立がん研究センター中央病院 高島淳生

#### 〇改訂箇所 1:米国の N0949 試験の中止に伴う PRO-CTCAE の評価中止について

(2013年11月26日発行メモランダム)

以下の経緯より、新規登録患者と現在治療中の患者も含めて PRO-CTCAE の評価を、2013 年 11 月 26 日をもって中止いたします。

#### 【JCOG1018 試験について】

JCOG1018 試験は主に後期高齢者における治癒切除不能の進行/再発大腸癌患者を対象に、標準治療であるフルオロピリミジン+ベバシズマブ療法に対する、試験治療のフルオロピリミジン+オキサリプラチン+ベバシズマブ療法の無増悪生存期間における優越性を検証する試験です。なお無増悪生存期間は全生存期間のサロゲートエンドポイントと位置づけ、真のエンドポイントである全生存期間については、米国 NCCTG と CALGB の共同で同様のデザインで行われていた N0949 試験と本試験との統合解析により検証する予定で試験を計画しておりました。

#### 【両試験における PRO-CTCAE 研究】

治療開発の臨床試験において、医療者によるアウトカム評価だけではなく患者自身による主観的評価、すなわち PRO (Patient-Reported Outcome)の重要性が認識されてきました。その考え方をがん臨床試験の有害事象に適用し、より正確度と精密度の高い grading を行う評価システムを構築することを目的として NCI の研究班によって PRO-CTCAE の開発が進められています。日本では東北大学の山口、東京大学の黒田および JCOG データセンターが共同で PRO-CTCAE 日本語版を作成し、JCOG 運営委員会で 2011 年 9 月に承認されました。 JCOG1018 のもととなる米国 N0949 試験では、PRO-CTCAE より 9 項目を抽出し評価を行うことになっていたため、JCOG1018 試験でも、米国 N0949 試験と同じ 9 項目を用いて、PRO-CTCAE の各項目の分析(欠測値の解析、記述統計量の算出など)および、妥当性、反応性、感度、実施可能性の検討を行うこととしておりました。また、本試験においては、PRO-CTCAE の各項目に対する CTCAE のデータも収集しており、PRO-CTCAE と CTCAE の関係についても考察を加える予定でしたが、PRO-CTCAE は治療前、およびコース毎に評価する必要があるために、担当医および患者にとってはかなりの負担になっていました。

#### 【N0949 試験の進捗】

N0949 試験は JCOG1018 試験より約1年前に登録開始となりましたが患者登録の進捗が悪いため、2012年末より NCI より中止勧告がだされました。NCCTG としては試験デザインの変更などを提案しましたが、受け入れられず試験中止が正式決定され、2013年5月に日本側に試験中止の報告がされました。

#### 【PRO-CTCAE の問題点】

N0949 試験との比較検討を行うこと、および、日本人でのデータをとることを目的として、JCOG1018 試験でも PRO-CTCAE の評価をおこなってきましたが、コース毎のアンケート調査は、専属 CRC のつかない多くの施設では担当医の大きな負担になっておりました。そのためいくつかの施設からは、PRO-CTCAE 評価の負担が大きいために登録が途絶えてしまっている状況でありました。

また PRO-CTCAE の質問票自体に疑問があったことも問題とされていました。PRO-CTCAE はリコールバイアスを最小化するために、回答の時点から遡って 7 日前までの有害事象発現状況を評価しています。一方、本試験では 1 コースが 2-3 週となりますが、有害事象発現のピークは投与後 5 日程度となります。通常の CTCAE ではコース中の最悪値をとるため、ピーク時の状況を評価できますが、PRO-CTCAE は回答から 7 日間までの状況を聞くために、このピーク時の状況を評価できないことになります。このように評価時期の異なる CTCAE とPRO-CTCAE を比較することの意義に対する疑問もあり、NCI 側に数回確認を行いましたが質問票の修正は行わないとのことで、未だ納得できる回答は得られていません。

今回、N0949 試験の登録が中止となったため、N0949 試験との比較検討を行うことは不可能となります。日本のみで PRO-CTCAE の評価を継続するかどうか検討いたしましたが、現在、JCOG1018 試験も当初の登録予定の半分程度の登録ペースであり、なるべく試験自体をシンプルにし参加施設の負担を軽減することで、少しでも患者登録ペースを促進することが重要と考え、PRO-CTCAE の評価は中止することといたしました。

また、米国側の試験中止を受けて、PRO-CTCAE のみならず、本試験自体の中止も大腸がんグループ班会議で検討しましたが、「PRO-CTCAE の評価は中止するが、本試験は継続する」ということでコンセンサスが得られました。

以上から新規登録患者と現在治療中の患者も含めて PRO-CTCAE の評価を中止します。 今回の改訂でプロトコールは以下のように変更させていただきます。

#### 赤字取り消し線の削除、青字下線追記箇所

#### 2.7.1. 患者自己評価式有害事象評価(PRO-CTCAE: Patient-reported outcomes version of the CTCAE) (患者自己評価式有害事象共通用語規準-日本語訳東北大学/東京大学/JCOG版)

近年、治療開発の臨床試験において、医療者によるアウトカム評価だけではなく患者自身による主観的評価、すなわち PRO(Patient-Reported Outcome)の重要性が認識されてきた。この考え方をがん臨床試験の有害事象評価に適用し、より正確度と精密度の高い gradingを行う評価システムを構築することを目的として、Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center の Basch らを中心とした NCI(National Cancer Institute)の研究班によって PRO-CTCAE の開発が進められている[54]。

PRO-CTCAE は、既存の CTCAE を活かしつつ PRO の要素を導入し、患者の自己評価にもとづいて有害事象を測定できるツールである。PRO-CTCAE の作成過程では、まず CTCAE ver4.0 の有害事象項目のうち、患者の主観的評価が可能な 80 症状を選択し、各症状についてより患者が理解しやすい表現への置き換えを行った。次に、各症状に対する Dimension (症状の有無、頻度、程度、日常生活への影響)を設定し、それぞれの Dimension における質問文と選択肢の基本構成を作成した。最終的に、80 症状(124 項目)をPRO-CTCAE における質問項目として設定した。

日本では東北大学の山口、東京大学の黒田、JCOG データセンターが共同で PRO-CTCAE 日本語版を作成し、JCOG 運営委員会で 2011 年 9 月に承認された。米国 N0949 試験では、PRO-CTCAE より 9 項目を抽出し評価を行うことになっており、本試験でも、米国 N0949 試験と同じ 9 項目を用いて、PRO-CTCAE の各項目の分析(欠損値の解析、記述統計量の算出など)、妥当性、反応性、感度、実施可能性の検討を行う。また、本試験においては、PRO-CTCAE の各項目に対応する CTCAE のデータも収集しており、PRO-CTCAE と CTCAE の関係についても考察を加える。本試験では、PRO-CTCAE を治療前、および治療中はコース毎に評価することとする。

### <Ver1.1 での追記事項>

N0949 試験は患者登録の進捗が悪く、2012 年末に NCI より中止勧告がだされ、2013 年 5 月に中止が正式決定された。

PRO-CTCAE の評価は多くの施設で担当医の大きな負担となっており、本試験の登録の進捗が悪い理由の1つと考えられた。N0949 試験の中止を受けグループで検討した結果、試験デザインをシンプルにし参加施設の負担を軽減することで、患者登録を促進することが重要と考え、2013 年 11 月 26 日をもってPRO-CTCAE の評価は中止することとした。

#### 8.1.5 登録後、治療開始前に実施する探索的研究に関連した調査/検査

#### 全ての登録患者

1)PRO-CTCAE

2)1)VES-13

3)2)EQ-5D

#### 8.2.6.プロトコール治療中の探索的研究に関する調査項目

- 1)コース毎(治療開始から6ヶ月間:通常の CRF と同様に JCOG データセンターへ送付)
  - PRO-CTCAE
- <del>2)</del>1)治療開始後3か月毎に1年まで(3か月、6か月、9か月、12か月:QOL研究事務局へ送付)
  - EQ-5D

#### 8.3.2.プロトコール治療終了後の探索的研究に関する調査項目