LIVER METASTASIS DISCOVERED DURING SURGERY OF RECTAL CANCER

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Introduction: The impact of radiochemotherapy in the liver metastasis discovered during surgery.

Methods: 52 patients treated between 2009 and 2010 for rectal cancer by chemoradiotherapy. The median age was 48 years (19-69 years old). Stage II (15 patients 28.8%). Stage III (37 patients 71.2%). All patients received chemo radiotherapy (RTCT) 50GY with FOLFOX4.

Results: Of the 48 patients operated, 4 patients had liver metastasis discovered during surgery (8%). Median age of these patients was 47 years (28-62). 3 patients classified stage IIIC, 1 patient stage II A. The CT-scanner before surgery don’t showed liver metastasis. 3 patients had resection of liver metastasis with TME. 1 patient had just TME without resection of liver metastasis. 1 patient was in complete tumor response (ypT0N0). The median time before surgery and after RTCT was 10 weeks (6 to 22 weeks). So patients remained 10 weeks without chemotherapy while awaiting surgery, while on stage locally advances. All these patients had an adjuvant chemotherapy. 2 patients are alive and in complete remission of their disease, 2 patients died after other metastasis. The SO was 22 months (8 to 44 months).

Conclusion: Liver metastasis discovered during surgery is present in 8% of patients. This is probably under their classification, the delay between the radiology and surgery (more than 8 weeks) and can also be of the disease progression between the end of the RTCT and surgery (the patient remains without chemotherapy for more than 8 weeks before surgery). And when the surgeon discovered a liver metastasis during surgery, he must remove it, if it’s possible.