



Impact of Neoadjuvant Treatment on the Feasibility of Breast Conserving Surgery for Chinese Women

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Background/Purpose: Neo-adjuvant chemotherapy could improve the rate of Breast Conserving Surgery (BCS) for Western women. However, there is a scarcity of data if this could also be applied for Chinese women.

Methods: From January 1996 to December 2012, a total of 557 patients were treated for breast cancer in the Department of Surgery at Queen Mary Hospital and they formed the focus of this study. Their clinicopathological data and treatment outcome were reviewed.

Results: 82.0% patients had invasive ductal carcinoma before operation. A total of 95 patients had either grade I or II tumors. estrogen receptor, progesterone receptor and c-erb B2 positivity were detected in 28.0%, 21.3% and 35.0% of the patients. With respect to the choice of treatment, 85.0% of patients were proposed for mastectomy. After neo-adjuvant treatment, 67.0% patients underwent mastectomy and the remaining 23.0% patients underwent wide local excision. 8.2% patients also underwent reconstruction after mastectomy. Sentinel lymph node biopsy was performed in 11.8% patients and axillary dissection was performed in 74.9% patients.

Conclusion: Neo-adjuvant treatment could successfully convert around 20% breast cancer patients with initially proposed mastectomy to BCS in Chinese women.