

LUNG CANCER IN ELDERLY: TREATMENT AND SURVIVAL ANALYSIS

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Rationale: Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer death worldwide. The risk of cancer increases with age and the number of elderly patients with lung cancer is increasing. Although the age is not the restriction, the results of the treatment of the elderly and their survival are unavailable or poorly described.

Objective: Our aim was to assess the overall survival (OS) and treatment results of elderly patients (≥ 70 years) treated in 2016-2017 in the Department of Lung Diseases and Tuberculosis and Oncology Center in Białystok, Poland.

Materials and Methods: Retrospective cohort study was performed, and available patient medical records were surveyed including the time to progression, overall survival, histopathological diagnosis and type of treatment.

Results and discussion: We have identified 121 cases (46F, 75M) of advanced lung cancer among elderly patients. Most prevalent histological types were: squamous cell lung cancer (SLC) – 43,8% (M 54%, F 38%), adenocarcinoma (AC) – 33,1% (M 21%, F 48%) and small-cell lung cancer (SCLC) – 14,9% (M 12%, F 15%). The Kaplan-Meier survival analysis revealed a median OS of 556 days in SLC, 184 days in AC and 283 days in SCLC. Median OS was 324 days.

Conclusion: Advanced lung cancer in elderly patients has a poor prognosis and short survival. There are significant differences in the incidence of different types of lung cancer between elderly men and women. There was a negative correlation between male sex and OS.