

Abstract: P4

The prognostic significance of steroid receptor immunocytochemistry in endometrial carcinoma

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1. Object

To evaluate preoperative oestrogen receptor (OR) and progesterone receptor (PR) immunocytochemistry in relation to other clinicopathological prognostic factors and long-term follow-up in patients with endometrial carcinoma.

2. Materials and methods

Cellular OR and PR content was analysed by computerised image analysis in paraffin sections of diagnostic specimens from 169 consecutive endometrial carcinoma patients. Receptor scorings were correlated with clinicopathological parameters after surgical-pathological staging and with long-term survival after a standardised (adjuvant) treatment protocol.

3. Results

Absent or very low OR and/or PR expression in the preoperative specimen appears significantly associated with other adverse clinicopathological parameters (i.e. FIGO stage, myometrial invasion, histological grade and tumour type) after surgical staging. Furthermore, OR as well as PR scoring significantly predicted long-term survival. Multivariate analysis, using the Cox regression model, revealed that OR as well as PR scoring add significant prognostic information regarding long-term survival for patients in all stages endometrial cancer.

Results will be discussed with emphasis on and summarising other recent studies on the prognostic value of steroid receptor immunocytochemistry in endometrial carcinoma so far.

4. Conclusions

It is strongly indicated that the results of OR and PR immunocytochemistry be incorporated in the diagnostic work-up. As the results of steroid receptor immunocytochemistry may independently lead to a better identification of the different risk groups, they may be valuable for the guidance of surgical-pathological staging and adjuvant treatment planning of endometrial cancer patients.

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