in 85 (44.9%) patients, proximal subtotal resection in 16 (8.5%) and distal subtotal resection in 75 (39.7%). Combined operations were performed in 58 (30.7%) patients. Control group formed 70 gastric cancer patients younger than 35 years old, who were performed variety kind operations.

Results: General postoperative complications developed in 39 patients (8.6%), and postoperative mortality was 8.9% in the main group. In control group complications developed in 5 (7.1%) patients and died 2 (2.8%) patients. Analysis of the remote results depending on the character of operation has shown that after radical operation 3-years survival rate was 40.9±3.5%, 3-years survival rate after palliative surgery was 20.8±3.5% in the main group. 3-years survival after radical operation was 45.0±4.3%, after radical curative surgery 3-years survival rate was 26.6±4.3% after palliative surgery in the control group.

Conclusion: Analysis the direct results of surgical treatment of gastric cancer patients in older age shows that, as a whole at the expense of numerous accompanying pathologies and decrease regeneration functions, the postoperative complications remain rather high and requires realization special methods of preparation. The satisfactory remote results of surgical treatment of gastric cancer patients in older age, in comparison with control group give the basis to perform radical surgery.

6556 POSTER
Splenic Artery Invasion in Pancreatic Adenocarcinoma of the Body and Tail − a Novel Prognostic Parameter for Patients Selection

S. Partelli[1], S. Crippa[1], G. Barugola[1], M. Tamburrino[1], P. Capelli[2], M. D'Onofrio[3], P. Pederzoli[1], M. Falconi[1]. [1]Policlinico G.B. Rossi, Surgery, Verona, Italy; [2]Policlinico G.B. Rossi, Pathology, Verona, Italy; [3]Policlinico G.B. Rossi, Radiology, Verona, Italy

Background: The value of splenic vessels invasion (which identified T3 tumours) in prognosis after resection for pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma (PDA) of the body and tail has been scarcely investigated. Aim of this study was to evaluate prognostic factors in PDA of the body/tail, emphasizing the role of splenic vessels infiltration.

Methods. Between 1990 and 2008, 87 patients who underwent distal pancreatectomy (DP) for histologically proven PDA of the body and tail were analyzed. Clinico-pathological prognostic factors for survival were evaluated. Univariate and multivariable analyses were performed.

Results. Postoperative morbidity was 31% with no mortality. The 1-, 3- and 5-year overall survival rates were 77%, 48% and 24.5%, respectively. Invasion of the splenic artery (SA) was observed in 19 patients (22%). All 19 patients with SA invasion had also SV involvement. The sensitivity and specificity of preoperative imaging in detecting SA infiltration resulted 37% and 96%, respectively. Patients with SA invasion had a significantly worse prognosis compared with those without SA invasion (median survival: 15 vs. 39 months, p = 0.014) (Figure). Of the 19 patients with SA infiltration, 17 had a recurrence. In all those 15 patients with SA involvement who died, 14 (93%) died within 2 years from surgery. Also patients with SV invasion had a poorer survival respect of patients without SV invasion (24 vs. 44 months, P = 0.03). On multivariable analysis, adjuvant therapy, poorly differentiation (G3/G4), R2 resection, the presence of lymph node metastases, and SA invasion were independent predictors of survival.

Conclusions. Invasion of SA is an independent predictor of poor survival in PDA of the body/tail. PDAs with SA invasion should be classified as T4 tumours rather than T3. The SA involvement implies a more aggressive tumour biology, although a radical resection can be achieved safely by a surgical standpoint. In the presence of SA infiltration, neoadjuvant treatment should be considered.

6557 POSTER
Pancreatic Endocrine Carcinoma − Lymph Node Ratio and KI67 Are Predictors of Recurrence After Curative Resections

S. Partelli[1], L. Boninsegna[1], F. Panzuto[2], G. Delle Fave[2], P. Capelli[3], P. Pederzoli[1], A. Scarpa[3], M. Falconi[1]. [1]Policlinico G.B. Rossi, Surgery, Verona, Italy; [2]University "La Sapienza", Gastroenterolgy, Rome, Italy; [3]Policlinico G.B. Rossi, Pathology, Verona, Italy

Introduction: Pancreatic endocrine carcinomas (PECs) are generally associated with a good prognosis after radical resection. In other pancreatic malignancies predictors of recurrence and the role of lymph node ratio (LNR) are well known, but both have been scarcely investigated for PECs.

Methods: The prospective database from the surgical Department of Verona University was queried. Clinical and pathological data of all patients with resected PECs between 1990 and 2008 were reviewed. Univariate and multivariate analysis were performed.

Results: Fifty-seven patients (male/female ratio = 1) with a median age of 58 years (33−78) entered in the study. Overall, 29 (51%) patients underwent pancreaticoduodenectomy and 28 (49%) distal pancreatectomy. Postoperative mortality was nil with a 37% morbidity rate. There were 36

(63%) patients with node metastases (N1). Patients with positive nodes had a lymph node ratio (LNR) ⩽0.20 in 44 cases whereas 13 (23%) had a LNR >0.20. The median overall survival and the median disease free survival (DFS) were 190 and 80 months, respectively. Recurrent disease was identified in 24 patients (42%) with a 2 and 5-year DFS rate of 82% and 49%, respectively. On multivariate analysis, LNR >0.20 (HR = 4.98) and a value of Ki67 >5% (HR = 2.75) were significant predictors of recurrence (P < 0.03).

Conclusions: After resection for malignant PECs, LNR and a Ki67 >5% are the most powerful predictors of recurrence. The presence of these factors should be considered for addressing patients to adjuvant treatment in future clinical trials.

6558 POSTER
Analysis of the N Descriptors and Other Prognosis Factors in Curatively Resected Thoracic Esophageal Squamous Cell Carcinoma

W. Mao[1], Y. Xu[2], J. Liu[1], Y. Jiang[1], J. Chen[1], X. Zhou[1], X. Du[2], X. Zheng[2]. [1]Zhejiang Cancer Hospital, Department of Thoracic Surgery, Hangzhou, China; [2]Zhejiang Cancer Hospital, Department of Radiation Oncology, Hangzhou, China

Background: The seventh edition of the tumour, node, metastasis classification of esophageal cancer have been published. Different from the sixth edition, N descriptors are divided into N0, N1a, N1b, N2 and N3. We combined this new parameter with other well-established prognostic factors and performed multivariate survival analyses to validate its value in Chinese thoracic esophageal squamous cell carcinoma (TESCC).

Methods: We try to validate the new staging project in 1002 patients who underwent complete surgical resection (R0) for TESCC in single institution of Zhejiang Cancer Hospital from 2003 to 2008. Patients who received preoperative chemotherapy and/or radiotherapy were excluded. Variables in the analysis included age, gender, tumour location, local tumour stage, degree of cell differentiation and the stage of pN or vascular involvement, adjuvant chemotherapy and adjuvant radiotherapy. Survival curves were estimated using the Kaplan–Meier method and compared by the log-rank test. Multivariate analysis was performed by Cox regression model. Statistical analysis was performed using SPSS software, Version 13.0 (SPSS Inc., Chicago, IL). All probability values were two-sided and p values <0.05 were considered statistically significant.

Results: The median overall survival (OS) of different pN+ (pN1a, pN1b, pN2 and pN3) were 41.1, 21.3, 16.1 and 12.8 months respectively (X2 = 57.91, p < 0.001). The 5-year OS rate of patients with different pN+ (pN1a, pN1b, pN2 and pN3) were 43.7%, 25.0%, 14.4% and 11.8% respectively. The 5-year disease-free survival rate of patients with different pN+ (pN1a, pN1b, pN2 and pN3) were 37.8%, 24.1%, 11.4% and 3.8% respectively (X2 = 60.09, p < 0.001). Variables associated with worse OS on univariate analysis were male, length of tumour ⩾5 cm, deeper depth of invasion, more lymph node metastasis, higher histologic grade, vessel involvement positive, postoperative radiotherapy and postoperative chemotherapy. By multivariate analyses, gender (HR 0.54; 95% CI 0.37–0.80; p = 0.002), depth of invasion (HR 1.42; 95% CI 1.22–1.67; p < 0.001), histologic grade (HR 1.17; 95% CI 1.01–1.36; p = 0.040), and the stage of pN (HR 1.48; 95% CI 1.37–1.60; p < 0.001) were independent predictive factors for OS.

Conclusions: pN stage in the 7th edition is a significant independent prognostic factors in patients after curative surgery in Chinese TESCC.

6559 POSTER
Changes in Treatment for Advanced Carcinoma of the Biliary Tract With Cetuximab

F. Costa[1], D. Nebuloni[1], B. Gumz[1], A. Cantor[2], B. Pasche[3]. [1]Hospital Sírio Libanês, Centro de Oncologia, São Paulo, Brazil; [2]UAB Comprehensive Cancer Center, Biostatistics and Bioinformatics Shared Facility, Birmingham, USA; [3]UAB Comprehensive Cancer Center, Division of Hematology/Oncology, Birmingham, USA

Background: The role of chemotherapy in advanced carcinoma of the biliary tract is limited. While resistance to cytotoxic chemotherapy may vary according to tumour location in the biliary tree, the value of cisplatin containing regimens was confirmed in a large prospective randomized trial and has become the standard of care for treatment for advanced carcinoma of the biliary tract. The recent addition of cetuximab to cisplatin-containing regimens has resulted in increased response rates in a phase II trial. A randomized phase II trial is now completed.

Material and Methods: We retrospectively evaluated all 37 patients diagnosed with advanced carcinoma of the biliary tract referred to a single clinical practice in a Brazilian Cancer Center from January 2005 to March 2011.