乳癌病人使用內分泌治療的時間長短對其存活之影響

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The duration of endocrine therapy and breast cancer patients' survival

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Purpose:

As research progressed, the recommended duration of endocrine therapy for breast cancer patients has been extended from 5 to 10 years. This study aimed to investigate how the duration of endocrine medication and therapy affect survival rate in the real world.

Materials and Methods:

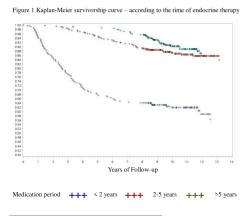
This retrospective cohort study is based on data from the National Health Insurance Research Database (NHIRD) between 2000 and 2013. The study examined 1002 breast cancer patients newly diagnosed between 2000 and 2005 as research subjects, and conducted follow-up until 2013. In order to exclude mortality due to severe illness instead of different medication, this study set new breast cancer patients who passed away within 180 days and patients with other cancer diagnosis records 2 years prior to breast cancer diagnosis as criteria for exclusion to mitigate the issue of bias.

Results:

Among these subjects, 51 used aromatase inhibitors (AIs), 561 used tamoxifen, and 390 alternated between the use of tamoxifen and AIs. The mean follow-up period in this study was 9.63 years, and the mean duration of taking endocrine medication was 4.04 years. The tamoxifen group had the longest follow-up period (9.87 years), shortest endocrine therapy duration (3.29 years), and best survival rate (86.1%). Patients were divided into 3 groups based on the duration of endocrine therapy: under 2 years, 2 to 5 years, and over 5 years. It was found that patients who received medication for less than 2 years showed the lowest survival rate with statistically significant differences (P<.001).

Conclusion:

The extension of endocrine therapy duration is critical in improving breast cancer patients' survival rate.



Test	Chi-squared	Degrees of	Pr >
	_	Freedom	Chi-squared
Log rank test	115.5785	2	<.001
Wilcoxon	133.8000	2	<.001
-2Log(LR)	92.3490	2	<.001

Figure 1 Kaplan-Meier survivorship curve – according to the time of endocrine therapy