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The histological growth pattern and the clinico-metabolic characteristics accurately predict the outcome in patients undergoing surgery for colorectal liver metastases

- Belgian Group for Digestive Oncology (BGDO)

Ali BOHLOK¹, Ivan DURAN DERIJCKERE², Hugues AZEMA¹, Valerio LUCIDI³, Sophie VANKERCKHOVE¹, Alain HENDLISZ⁴, Jean Luc VAN LAETHEM⁵, Serge GOLDMAN⁶, Patrick FLAMEN¹, Denis LARSIMONT⁷, Pieter DEMETTER⁷, Luc DIRIX⁸, Peter VERMEULEN⁹, Vincent DONCKIER^{*1}

¹Department of Surgical Oncology, Institut Jules Bordet, Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB), Brussels, Belgium

²Department of Nuclear Medicine, Institut Jules Bordet, Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB), Brussels, Belgium

³Department of Abdominal Surgery, Hôpital Erasme, Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB), Brussels, Belgium

⁴Department of Digestive Oncology, Institut Jules Bordet, Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB), Brussels, Belgium

⁵Department of Hepato-Gastroenterology, Hôpital Erasme, Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB), Brussels, Belgium

⁶Department of Nuclear Medicine, Hôpital Erasme, Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB), Brussels, Belgium

⁷Department of Pathology, Institut Jules Bordet, Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB), Brussels, Belgium

⁸Translational Cancer Research Unit (CORE), Gasthuiszusters Antwerpen Hospitals, University of Antwerp, Antwerp, Belgium

⁹Translational Cancer Research Unit, GZA Hospitals & CORE, MIPRO, University of Antwerp, Antwerp, Belgium

Introduction: Selection for surgery in patients with colorectal liver metastases (CRLM) remains poorly personalized. We evaluated whether the combination of clinico-metabolic characteristics with the histological growth pattern (HGP) of CRLM could improve the prognostication in individual cases.

Methods: In a series of 108 patients undergoing resection of CRLM, the HGP of CRLM was scored according to international guidelines. A baseline metabolic-Clinical Risk Score (mCRS) was calculated by adding the 18FDG-PET/CT scan data as a parameter to the traditional Memorial Sloan Kettering CRS.

Results: In patients with desmoplastic HGP (DHGP) CRLM (20% of all patients), 5- and 10-years OS and DFS were 66% and 43% and 37% and 24.5%, as compared with 35% and 21% and 11% and 11% in the non-DHGP group ($p = 0.07$ and 0.054). Among DHGP patients, those with a low-risk mCRS had significantly improved postoperative outcomes, 5- and 10-years OS and DFS reaching 83.3% and 62.5% and 50% and 33%, as compared with 18% and 0% and 0% and 0% in high-risk mCRS patients ($p = 0.007$ and 0.003). In contrast, mCRS did not influence the postoperative survivals in non-DHGP patients.

Conclusions: Combining the clinico-metabolic characteristics with the HGP may improve prognostication in patients undergoing surgery for CRLM.

Corresponding Author: Vincent DONCKIER (Vincent.donckier@bordet.be)

Presenter: Ali BOHLOK (ali.bohlok@bordet.be)

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