

## Hepatocellular Carcinoma: Review of Clinicopathologic Features, Prognostic Factors and Treatment Results

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PAJO, December 2013, 6(4): 18-24

### **Abstract**

**Background:** HCC is the fifth most common cancer in the world, and the third most common cause of cancer-related death. In USA, the rate of HCC has increased by 70% over the last two decades. In Egypt, there is a remarkable increase in the incidence of HCC among patients with chronic liver disease from 4.0% to 7.2% over a decade.

**Aim of the work:** to discuss the clinicopathologic features, prognostic factors and treatment results of cases of HCC.

**Patients and methods:** 482 patients with HCC, from Damanhour Cancer Center and Behera Health Insurance between 2002 and 2006. Diagnosis by a biopsy or triphasic CT abdomen plus elevated AFP  $\geq$  400 ng/ml. Files of patients were reviewed for clinicopathologic features, treatment, prognostic factors, PFS and OS.

**Results:** Mean age 52.9 years. Male to female ratio 4:1. Most of patients (80.70%) were HCV positive; 77.2 % had Childs'-Pugh scores B/C. Tumor was solitary in 57.5% of patients. PV thrombosis was present in 20% of cases. Eighty six % of patients had elevated AFP > 400 ng/ml. Most patients presented in a late stage; 38.3% had BCLC stage C. 15.4 % of patients treated with potentially curative intent: surgery, RFA, TACE or conformal RT. Palliative treatment included RT, chemotherapy, hormonal, immunotherapy and best supportive care. CR was achieved in all patients treated by surgery. RFA achieved response rate (CR+PR) of 87%. TACE 75%, conformal RT 68%. Significant prognostic factors included: degree of hepatic cirrhosis, number of lesions, stage and portal vein thrombosis.