



Operative versus Nonoperative Treatment for Stage 0 Rectal Cancer following Chemoradiation Therapy



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INTRODUCTION

- In locally advanced rectal cancer, preoperative chemoradiotherapy (pCRT) is the standard care;
- Response to pCRT is highly variable, with only 8-20% of the patients exhibiting a complete pathological response;

AIM

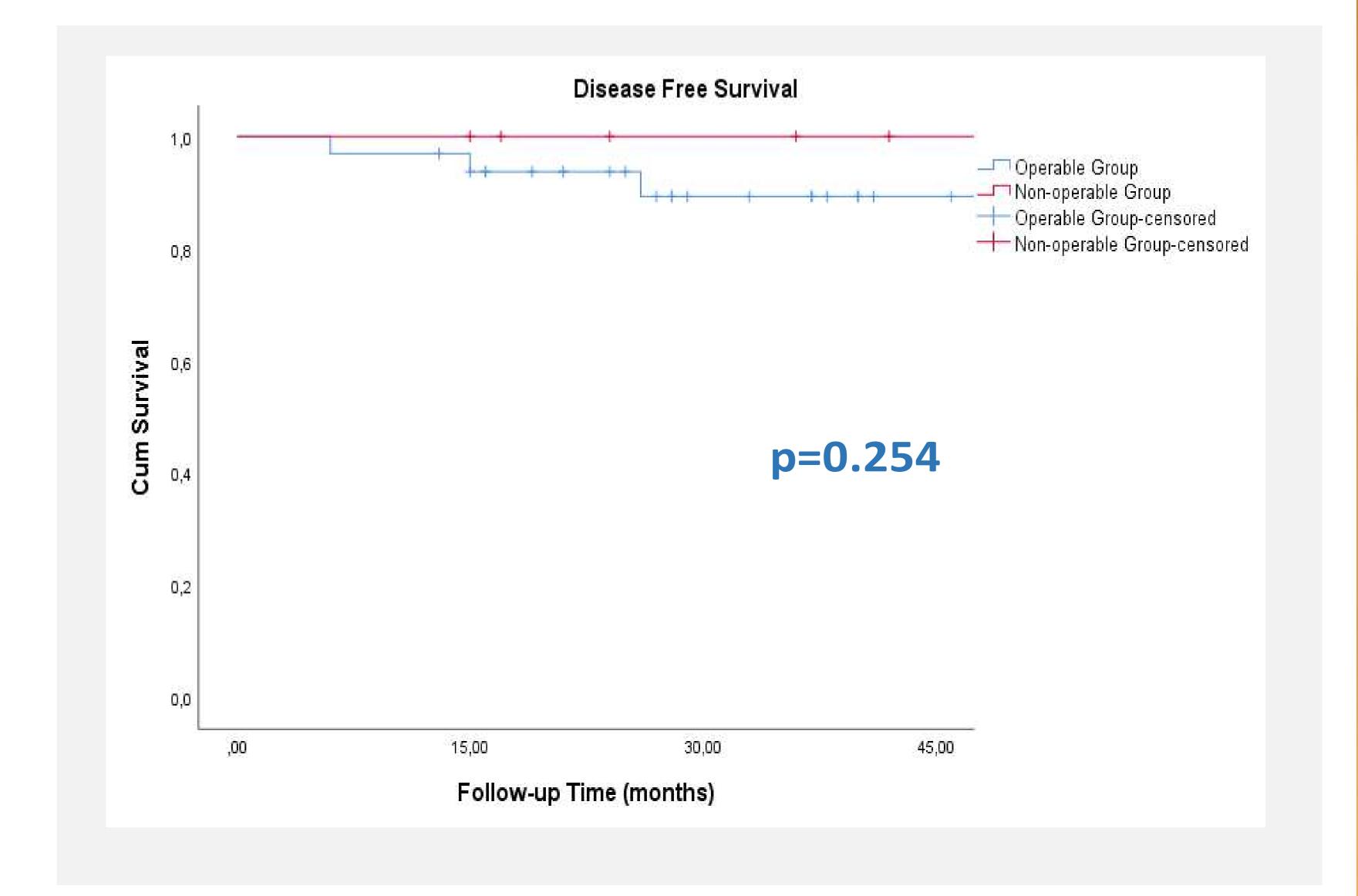
 We aimed to compare 2 groups of patients submitted to pCRT: one group without total clinical response therefore needing surgery (ypT0), and another with total clinical response, that did not need surgery (ycT0).

RESULTS

N= 13		Non-Operative	Operative	
N(%) N(%) Sex 0.806 Male 8 (61.5) 19 (57.6) Female 5 (38.5) 14 (42.4) Mean age, years 0.739 (Mean) 60.0 61.73 Follow-up, months 45.1 37.5 cT 0.884 2 2 (15.4) 4 (12.1) 3 10 (76.9) 25 (75.8) 4 1 (7.7) 4 (12.1) cN 22 (66.7) 0.417 4 7 (53.8) 22 (66.7) 6 (46.2) 11 (33.3) 0.181 CTNM Stage 0.181 I 1 (7.7) 0 (0.0) III 5 (38.5) 9 (27.3) IIII 7 (53.8) 24 (72.7) Rectum localization 0.524 Middle 5 (38.5) 16 (48.5)				P*
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2 2 (15.4) 4 (12.1) 3 10 (76.9) 25 (75.8) 4 1 (7.7) 4 (12.1) CN	(Mean)	45.1	37.5	
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Rectum localization 0.524 Lower 7 (53.82) 12 (36.4) Middle 5 (38.5) 16 (48.5)	II	5 (38.5)	9 (27.3)	
Lower 7 (53.82) 12 (36.4) Middle 5 (38.5) 16 (48.5)		7 (53.8)	24 (72.7)	
Middle 5 (38.5) 16 (48.5)	Rectum localization			0.524
	Lower	7 (53.82)	12 (36.4)	
Upper 1 (7.7) 5 (15.2)	Middle	5 (38.5)	16 (48.5)	
	Upper	1 (7.7)	5 (15.2)	

	Non-Operative N= 13 N(%)	Operative N= 33 N(%)	P*
RT Total dose			NA
50 Gy	12 (92.3)	33 (100)	
50.4 Gy	1 (7.7)	0 (0.0)	
CT medication			NA
Capecitabine	13 (100)	32 (97.0)	
Other	0 (0.0)	1 (3.0)	
Surgery			NA
AAP	-	6 (18.2)	
RAR		26 (78.8)	
Local excision		1 (3.0)	
DFS, months (Mean)			0.493
	44.4	34.6	

Group	No. Patients (%)
Non-operable	13 (28.3)
Operable	33 (71.7)
TOTAL	46 (100)



METHOD

- Retrospective study; Based on RT Department electronic health records;
- Previously approved by the institutional ethical review board;
- Rectal adenocarcinoma considered resectable were treated by pCRT: January 2013 and December 2019 (n=46).
- Complete and incomplete clinical responses were defined based on pelvic resonance magnetic, thoracic and abdominal tomography and endoscopic findings;
- Patients with incomplete clinical response were submitted to surgery resulting in stage ypT0. This group was compared to patients with complete clinical response with pCRT alone (ycT0);
- Statistical analysis was performed using X², Mann-Whitney U test and Kaplan-Meier curves;
- The IBM SPSS v.26 software was used for statistical analysis.

CONCLUSIONS

Stage 0 rectal cancer disease is associated with excellent long-term results regardless of treatment strategy.

Appropriate identification of stage 0 disease after pCRT for rectal cancer is mandatory to identify a subset of patients that may be safely managed by strict follow-up and observation alone.

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