

HBP SURGERY WEEK 2023

MARCH 23 THU - 25 SAT, 2023 | BEXCO, BUSAN, KOREA www.khbps.org & The 58th Annual Congress of the Korean Association of HBP Surgery



ABST-0425

Use Of Statin Associated With Longer Survival In Patients With Pancreatic Cancer Undergoing Curative Resection

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Background : Previous preclinical and clinical studies have shown that statins, a cholesterol-lowering drugs, has an antineoplastic effect in several cancers. The purpose of this study is to analyze whether the use of statins affects the oncologic outcome in resected pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma (PDAC) patients.

Methods : The clinicopathologic data and survival outcome of patients who underwent curative resection for PDAC from January 2012 to December 2019 at Severance hospital was retrospectively reviewed.

Results : A total of 410 patients (228 men and 182 women) were enrolled. Median follow-up for the analysis was 12.8 months. Patients were divided into stain user (n=106, 25.9%) and non-user (n=304, 74.1%) group. Disease-free survival and overall survival were better in stain user group (p<0.001, p=0.001, respectively). There were no differences between two groups in terms of sex, R status, T stage, N stage, neoadjuvant, and adjuvant therapy. However, since the borderline to locally advanced stage was higher in the stain non-user group (22.7% vs. 6.6%, p=0.001), only resectable patients (n=334) were analyzed as a subgroup. The 5-year disease-free survival rate and overall survival rate were better in stain user group (46.5% vs. 28.7%, p=0.001; 59% vs. 41%, p=0.002, respectively). There were no differences between two groups in terms of sex, R status, T stage, N stage, N stage, Iymphovascular invasion, perineural invasion, neoadjuvant, and adjuvant therapy.

Conclusions : This study shows the use of statin is associated with significantly prolonged survival rate in resected PDAC patient. This finding could indicate that usage of statin combined with standard chemotherapy could be simple and effective treatment strategies.

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