

Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer Treatment Comparison to NCCN Guidelines

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By Shelly Smits, RHIT, CCS, CTR
Conclusions by Dr. Ian Thompson, MD

Data Source: Cancer registry data of AJCC summary stage III non-small cell lung cancer diagnosed January 1, 2003 to December 31, 2003.

Reason for Report: To determine if St. Joseph Hospital is following the NCCN guidelines for non-small cell lung cancer.

Findings: There were 20 cases of stage III non-small cell lung cancer diagnosed for the above time period.

Number following all NCCN treatment recommendations	= 10 (50%)
Number not following all NCCN recommendations	= 10 (50%)
Not following surgery recommendation	= 0
Not following radiation recommendation	= 3
Not following chemo recommendation	= 10
Reasons not following recommendations:	
Health reasons/tx not planned	= 7
Patient refused chemotherapy	= 3

Other interesting facts:

Average age of patients receiving NCCN treatment	= 65.5
Average age of patients not receiving NCCN treatment	= 73.8
Expired Patients:	= 11 (55%)
Median survival (in months)	= 7
Average age	= 73.18
Average interval between date of diagnosis to date of treatment	
Patients following recommended treatment (range 0-103 days)	= 25.7 days
Patients no following recommended treatment (range 0-83 days)	= 38.1 days

Conclusions: On further review of the information, it was determined that noncompliance in following the NCCN guidelines was due to patient age and/or other medical problems. The morbidity of combined therapy is high and not appropriate for patients with advanced age or significant co-morbidities.