

Synchronous Colorectal Tumors †

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† Presented at 2nd Edition of the OncoHub Conference – Connecting Scientists and Physicians for Next Generation Cancer Management, Poiana Braşov, Braşov, 21-23 September 2022

Received: 10.12.2022; Accepted: 20.12.2022; Published: 5.01.2023

Abstract: Synchronous colorectal cancer refers to more than 1 primary colorectal cancer detected in a single patient simultaneously or within 6 months of the initial diagnosis. The reported incidence of synchronous colorectal cancers ranges from 1.1% to 8.1%. Except for a preoperative colonoscopy, which is difficult to pass through malignant stenosis, other methods that can evaluate the proximal colon segment are critical. We reviewed the literature to establish the clinicopathological characteristics frequently encountered in the case of synchronous tumors, the potential risk factors, and the preoperative diagnostic methods. Clinicopathological features like age, sex, biomarkers, and pathologic and immunohistochemical findings were identified as risk factors for synchronous colorectal tumors. Except for preoperative colonoscopy, which is difficult to pass through malignant stenosis, other methods that can evaluate the proximal colon segment are critical. We expose several preoperative, intraoperative, and postoperative measures for synchronous lesion detection. Synchronous colorectal cancer is a risk factor for metachronous colorectal carcinoma. Part of metachronous cancer can be attributed to missed diagnosis in stenotic tumors that do not allow the passage of a colonoscope in order to diagnose malignant polyps.

Keywords: synchronous; metachronous; stenotic; colorectal.

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Funding

This work was supported by a grant from the Ministry of Research, Innovation and Digitization, CNCS - UEFISCDI, project number PN-III-P1-1.1-TE-2021-1236, within PNCDI III.

Acknowledgments

This research has no acknowledgment.

Conflicts of Interest

The authors declare no conflict of interest.