
Clinical Features and Treatment Outcome of Choledochal Cyst in Korea: A Nationwide Multicenter Survey

Department of Surgery, Seoul National University College of Medicine, Seoul, Korea

Seung Eun Lee, Jin-Young Jang, Sun-Whe Kim, Korean Pancreas Surgery Club

Background: Choledochal cyst is a relatively rare disease in Western countries, while common among the eastern-Asian. However, no larger scale data have been reported as a form of nationwide survey in Japan as well as in other countries.

Aim: The aim of this study is to investigate clinical feature and clinical outcome of choledochal cyst of adults that pathologically confirmed after surgical treatment in Korea.

Methods: A nationwide multicenter study was performed in which 13 university hospitals in Korea participated from 1990 to 2008. A total 808 patients undergoing surgery for choledochal cyst were enrolled. The clinicopathologic findings & long-term follow-up results were analyzed after the consensus meeting of the Korean Pancreas Surgery Club.

Results: Mean age of the patients was 42-years-old and male to female ratio was 1 : 3.8. Abdominal pain was the most common symptom (n=605; 74.9%), and 100 patients (12.4%) were asymptomatic. Type I was most common (n=499; 68.2%) followed by type IVa (n=208; 28.4%), type IVb (n=9; 1.2%), type II (n=7; 0.9%), type V (n=5; 0.7%) and type III (n=4; 0.5%). APBDU was identified in 472 patients (58.4%), with 293 C-P type (62.1%), 99 P-C type (21%), and 80 complex type (16.9%). In 644 patients (79.7%) choledochal cyst excision and choledochojejunostomy was performed. Biliary tract malignancy was associated in 86 patients (10.8%) which being 44 bile duct cancer (51%), 37 GB cancer (43%), 3 periampullary cancer and 2 synchronous GB and bile duct cancer. Curative resection was performed in 70 patients (81.4%). 19 patients (22.1%) recurred with a median survival of 38 months.

Conclusion: This study is the first nation-wide survey on choledochal cyst in adult and could be widely used as a reference data of choledochal cyst.