

Research Article

Analysis on the Characteristics of Malignant Tumors Treatment in Chongqing (Main Urban Area) from 2017-2019*

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Abstract

Objective: To analyze the characteristics of malignant tumors treatment in Chongqing (main urban area) from 2017-2019.

Methods: We collected and analyzed the data of special medical insurance registration for malignant tumors (reflect malignant tumors treatment directly) in Chongqing (main urban area) managed by the Chongqing University Cancer Hospital from 2017 to 2019.

Results: From 2017-2019, there were 20346, 23672, and 26765 cases of malignant tumors registered, respectively, including 11016, 12628 and 13938 male cases; 9330, 11044 and 12827 female cases; 4568, 7609 and 12008 cases of invasion and metastasis, respectively. The malignant tumors treatment peaked in male at the age of 60 years to 70 years old but peaked in women from the age of 40 years old. The top 5 malignant tumors in males were lung cancer, colorectal cancer, liver cancer, esophageal cancer and prostate cancer; the top 5 in females were breast cancer, lung cancer, thyroid cancer, cervical cancer and colorectal cancer. Among the common malignant tumors, thyroid cancer showed the youngest median age of treatment (41 years to 46 years old); prostate cancer showed the oldest median age of treatment (74 years old). Thyroid cancer was the only common malignant tumor that attacked women more than men besides breast cancer, cervical cancer and ovarian cancer. All other common malignant tumors attacked men more than women. The highest invasion and metastasis rates were showed in pancreatic cancer, ovarian cancer, prostate cancer and lung cancer, and the lowest rates were in thyroid cancer and bladder cancer. Compared with the national data of malignant tumors in 2015, the composition ratio of malignant tumors in Chongqing (main urban area) was significantly different with unique characteristics.

Conclusion: The spectrum of malignant tumors in Chongqing (main urban area) has its own characteristics. The tumor screening in Chongqing should consider the differences in gender, age and composition of common malignant tumors.

Keywords: Malignant tumor; Chongqing; 2017; 2018; 2019

Introduction

Malignant tumors are serious threats to human health. Each year, malignant tumors attack about 14 million people and cause about 8.2 million deaths globally; 57% of new cases and 65% of deaths occur in developing countries [1]. Studies have shown that the incidence of malignant tumors is increasing significantly in China [2,3]. Malignant tumors have become the leading cause of death among Chinese [4].

The onset of malignant tumors may be associated with factors such as genetic mutation, smoking, chronic infections (e.g., helicobacter pylori, hepatitis B virus and Human Papillomavirus (HPV)), obesity, unhealthy lifestyle, environmental pollution and occupational exposure [5-8]. Chinese government attaches great importance to tumor prevention and treatment [9].

Chongqing is the largest municipality in China and a central

city in western China. Data of the incidence of malignant tumors in Chongqing have been released intermittently but not in a regular and specific way [10]. This is neither conducive to the development of Chongqing malignant tumor prevention and treatment program from an overall situation nor the evaluation of effects on the prevention and treatment.

Chongqing University Cancer Hospital (Chongqing Cancer Research Institute, Chongqing Cancer Hospital) undertakes the management and registration of special medical insurance for malignant tumors among citizens in Chongqing (main urban area). These data directly reflect the annual characteristics of malignant tumors treatment in Chongqing (main urban area, nearly 9 million people). This paper analyzed the registration data of special medical insurance for malignant tumors in Chongqing (main urban area) from 2017 to 2019 and compared them with the previous data as well as the national data, hoping to provide a theoretical basis for the development of malignant tumor prevention and treatment program in Chongqing [11].

Materials and Methods

General data

The data of special medical insurance for malignant tumors in Chongqing (main urban area) registered in Chongqing University Cancer Hospital (Chongqing Cancer Research Institute, Chongqing Cancer Hospital, Chongqing Cancer Center) from 2017 to 2019.

Methods

The data were collated, organized and statistically analyzed.

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Statistical processing

SPSS 17.0 software was used to compare the composition ratios of common tumors. Count data were expressed as rate/percentage/ composition ratio and processed using Chi square test ($\alpha=0.05$). $P<0.05$ was considered statistically significant.

Results

Overview

The registered data of special medical insurance for malignant tumors (reflect tumor treatment) in Chongqing (main urban area, about 9 million people) from 2017 to 2019 are shown in Table 1, characterized by an annual case increase, more males cases than female ones, a median age of 60 years old, nearly 90% of pathologically confirmed diagnosis and an increasing rate of metastasis.

Age distribution

In the registered data from 2017 to 2019, the highest number of patients with malignant tumors treatment was showing in age group of 60 years to 70 years old, followed by age of 50 years to 60 years old, then 70 years to 80 years old and 40 years to 50 years old as shown (Figure 1).

The most common age of tumor treatment in male cases was between 60 years to 70 years old, followed by age group of 70 years to 80 years old and 50 years to 60 years old, with similar number of

Table 1: Data of special medical insurance for malignant tumors in Chongqing urban area from 2017 to 2019.

| | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 |
|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Total number | 20346 | 23672 | 26765 |
| Male / female | 11016/9330 | 12628/11044 | 13938/12827 |
| Median age (year) | 0-101 (61) | 0-99 (60) | 0-99 (60) |
| Pathologically confirmed diagnosis (%) | 18005 (88.5%) | 21009(88.8 %) | 23862 (89.2%) |
| Imaging and clinical diagnosis (%) | 2341(11.5 %) | 2663 (11.2 %) | 2903 (10.8%) |
| Metastasis (%) ^a | 4568 (22.45%) | 7609(32.14%) | 12008 (44.9%) |

a: indicating all metastases such as lymphatic metastasis and distant metastasis.

cases as shown in (Figure 2). Among female patients with malignant tumors, the cases in age group of 60 years to 70 years old, 50 years to 60 years old and 40 years to 50 years old were similar and significantly more than other age groups as shown in (Figure 3).

Type distribution

In general, the most common malignant tumors were lung cancer, colorectal cancer and breast cancer, followed by thyroid cancer, liver cancer and cervical cancer. Besides, esophageal cancer, gastric cancer and prostate cancer were also stably ranked among the tops as shown in (Table 2). The sum of these 9 types of malignant tumors accounted for 69.5%, 71.3% and 72.4% of the total registered number of special medical insurance for malignant tumors in Chongqing (main urban area) from 2017 to 2019, respectively.

For men, lung cancer, colorectal cancer, liver cancer, esophageal cancer, prostate cancer and gastric cancer were the most common malignant tumors as shown in (Table 3). The sum of these 6 types of malignant tumors accounted for 66.5%, 67.0% and 67.9% of the total male number of special medical insurance for malignant tumors from 2017 to 2019, respectively.

While for women, breast cancer, lung cancer, thyroid cancer, cervical cancer, colorectal cancer and ovarian cancer were the most common ones as shown in (Table 4). The total number of these 6

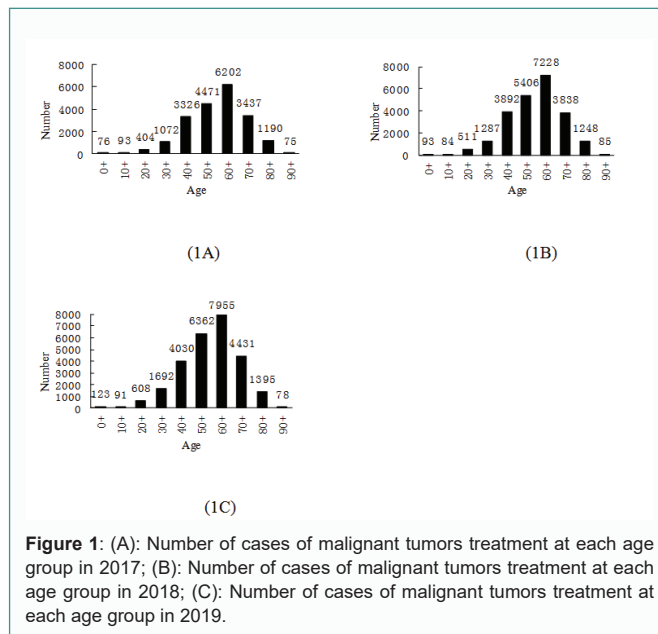


Figure 1: (A): Number of cases of malignant tumors treatment at each age group in 2017; (B): Number of cases of malignant tumors treatment at each age group in 2018; (C): Number of cases of malignant tumors treatment at each age group in 2019.

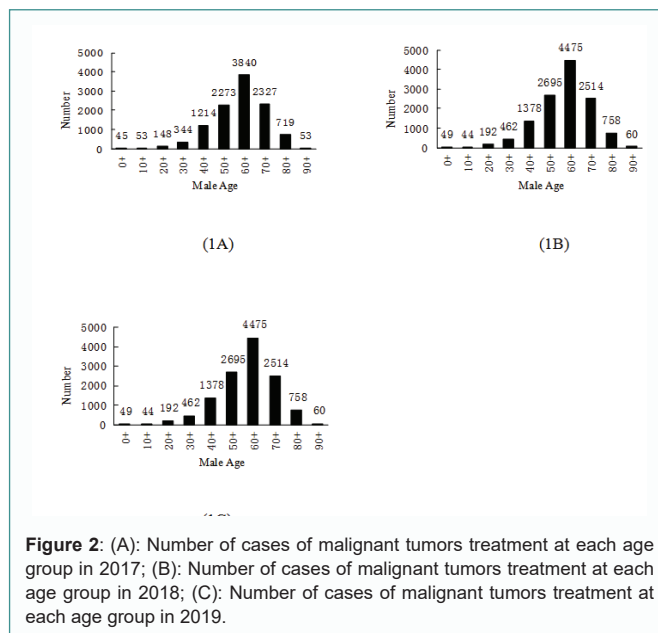


Figure 2: (A): Number of cases of malignant tumors treatment at each age group in 2017; (B): Number of cases of malignant tumors treatment at each age group in 2018; (C): Number of cases of malignant tumors treatment at each age group in 2019.

types of malignant tumors accounted for 66.9%, 69.6% and 70.6% of the total female number of special medical insurance for malignant tumors from 2017 to 2019, respectively.

Characteristics of common malignant tumor

We focused on 15 common malignant tumors, and thyroid cancer was found to have the youngest median age of treatment (41 years to 46 years old), followed by leukemia (45 years to 50 years old), then cervical cancer, breast cancer and nasopharyngeal carcinoma (50 years to 52 years old). Prostate cancer was found to have the oldest median age of treatment (74 years old), followed by bladder cancer (68 years old), esophageal cancer (66 years old) and pancreatic cancer (65 years old) as shown in (Tables 5A, B).

At the time of special medical insurance registration, the most obvious invasion to adjacent organs or distant metastasis was shown in pancreatic cancer (38.3% to 43.9%), followed by ovarian cancer (25.8% to 49.9%), lung cancer (28.4% to 36%), prostate cancer (31.2%

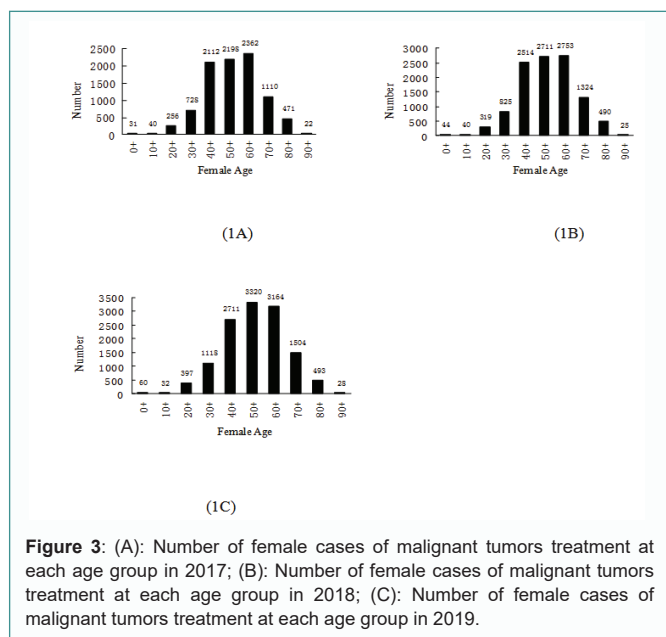


Figure 3: (A): Number of female cases of malignant tumors treatment at each age group in 2017; (B): Number of female cases of malignant tumors treatment at each age group in 2018; (C): Number of female cases of malignant tumors treatment at each age group in 2019.

to 34.9%), colorectal cancer (14.3% to 15.7%), gastric cancer (9.5% to 13.8%) and liver cancer (9.3% to 11.2%). While the least invasion and metastasis showed in thyroid cancer (0.6% to 0.7%), followed by bladder cancer (1.7% to 3.6%) and cervical cancer (2.9% to 3.9%).

In terms of male to female ratio, thyroid cancer was the only one that attacked women significantly more than men besides gender-specific tumors (breast cancer, cervical cancer, ovarian cancer, and prostate cancer), with an male to female ratio of about 1:3. Other common malignant tumors attacked men more than women, including lung cancer with a male-female ratio of about 2:1, liver cancer with a ratio of 4:1, esophageal cancer with a ratio of 4:1, gastric cancer with a ratio of 5:2, bladder cancer with a ratio of 5:1, and nasopharynx cancer with a ratio of 5:2. In addition, we also found a significant gender difference in larynx cancer, with a male to female ratio of 161:4, 210:7 and 210:8 from 2017 to 2019, respectively.

Composition ratio of tumors

The composition ratios of common tumors in data of special medical insurance for malignant tumors in Chongqing (main urban area) from 2017-2019 are shown in Table 6.

Discussion

From 2017 to 2019, there were more than 20,000 cases of special medical insurance for malignant tumors in Chongqing (main urban area, about 9 million people) managed by the Chongqing University Cancer Hospital each year (directly reflect the malignant tumors treatment every year). The number of cases was significantly increased compared with that in 2015 and 2016 [12]. The possible reasons are, firstly, increasing annual new-developed malignant tumors in Chongqing; secondly, increasing coverage of the basic medical insurance in Chongqing; thirdly, increasing awareness of citizens in

Table 2: Type of malignant tumors from 2017 to 2019.

| 2017 | Number of cases (%) | 2018 | Number of cases (%) | 2019 | Number of cases (%) |
|-------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Lung cancer | 4794 (23.56%) | Lung cancer | 5629 (23.78%) | Lung cancer | 6622 (24.7%) |
| Colorectal cancer | 2223 (10.93%) | Colorectal cancer | 2433 (10.28%) | Colorectal cancer | 2824 (10.6%) |
| Breast cancer | 1800 (8.85%) | Breast cancer | 2243 (9.48%) | Breast cancer | 2514 (9.4%) |
| Liver cancer | 1290 (6.34%) | Thyroid cancer | 1588 (6.71%) | Thyroid cancer | 1939 (7.2%) |
| Thyroid cancer | 1209 (5.94%) | Liver cancer | 1504 (6.35%) | Liver cancer | 1695 (6.3%) |
| Cervical cancer | 857 (4.21%) | Cervical cancer | 1119 (4.73%) | Cervical cancer | 2514 (9.4%) |
| Esophageal cancer | 795 (3.91%) | Esophageal cancer | 864 (3.65%) | Esophageal cancer | 941 (3.5%) |
| Gastric cancer | 640 (3.15%) | Gastric cancer | 818 (3.46%) | Gastric cancer | 874 (3.3%) |
| Prostate cancer | 541 (2.66%) | Prostate cancer | 686 (2.90%) | Prostate cancer | 779 (2.9%) |
| Lymphoma | 493 (2.42%) | Nasopharynx cancer | 585 (2.47%) | Lymphoma | 667 (2.5%) |
| Brain tumor (malignant) | 462 (2.27%) | Lymphoma | 561 (2.37%) | Kidney cancer | 526 (2.0%) |
| Nasopharynx cancer | 450 (2.21%) | Bladder cancer | 449 (1.90%) | Nasopharynx cancer | 505 (1.9%) |
| Kidney cancer | 410 (2.02%) | Brain tumor (malignant) | 441 (1.86%) | Pancreatic cancer | 490 (1.8%) |
| Bladder cancer | 406 (2.00%) | Kidney cancer | 425 (1.80%) | Bladder cancer | 467 (1.7%) |
| Pancreatic cancer | 379 (1.86%) | Pancreatic cancer | 397 (1.68%) | Ovarian cancer | 434 (1.6%) |
| Leukemia | 363 (1.78%) | Leukemia | 392 (1.66%) | Leukemia | 390 (1.5%) |
| Ovarian cancer | 299 (1.47%) | Ovarian cancer | 372 (1.57%) | Brain tumor (malignant) | 265 (1.0%) |

Table 3: Type of malignant tumors in male from 2017 to 2019.

| 2017 | Number of cases (%) | 2018 | Number of cases (%) | 2019 | Number of cases (%) |
|-------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Lung cancer | 3268 (29.67%) | Lung cancer | 3774 (29.89%) | Lung cancer | 4243 (30.4%) |
| Colorectal cancer | 1352 (12.27%) | Colorectal cancer | 1474 (11.67%) | Colorectal cancer | 1696 (12.2%) |
| Liver cancer | 1048 (9.51%) | Liver cancer | 1212 (9.60%) | Liver cancer | 1342 (9.6%) |
| Esophageal cancer | 653 (5.93%) | Esophageal cancer | 708 (5.61%) | Esophageal cancer | 781 (5.6%) |
| Prostate cancer | 541 (4.91%) | Prostate cancer | 686 (5.43%) | Prostate cancer | 779 (5.6%) |
| Gastric cancer | 462 (4.19%) | Gastric cancer | 601 (4.76%) | Gastric cancer | 617 (4.4%) |
| Bladder cancer | 339 (3.08%) | Nasopharynx cancer | 438 (3.47%) | Thyroid cancer | 501 (3.6%) |
| Nasopharynx cancer | 318 (2.89%) | Thyroid cancer | 427 (3.38%) | Lymphoma | 401 (2.9%) |
| Thyroid cancer | 305 (2.77%) | Bladder cancer | 381 (3.02%) | Bladder cancer | 381 (2.7%) |
| Lymphoma | 283 (2.57%) | Lymphoma | 352 (2.79%) | Nasopharynx cancer | 374 (2.7%) |
| Kidney cancer | 260 (2.36%) | Brain tumor (malignant) | 259 (2.05%) | Kidney cancer | 343 (2.5%) |
| Brain tumor (malignant) | 250 (2.27%) | Kidney cancer | 254 (2.01%) | Pancreatic cancer | 288 (2.1%) |
| Pancreatic cancer | 235 (2.13%) | Pancreatic cancer | 241 (1.91%) | Leukemia | 238 (1.7%) |
| Leukemia | 198 (1.80%) | Leukemia | 234 (1.85%) | Larynx cancer | 210 (1.5%) |
| Larynx cancer | 161 (1.46%) | Larynx cancer | 212 (1.68%) | Brain tumor (malignant) | 157 (1.1%) |

Table 4: Type of malignant tumors in female from 2017 to 2019.

| 2017 | Number of cases (%) | 2018 | Number of cases (%) | 2019 | Number of cases (%) |
|-------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Breast cancer | 1788 (19.16%) | Breast cancer | 2226 (20.16%) | Breast cancer | 2486 (19.4%) |
| Lung cancer | 1526 (16.36%) | Lung cancer | 1855 (16.80%) | Lung cancer | 2379 (18.5%) |
| Thyroid cancer | 904 (9.69%) | Thyroid cancer | 1161 (10.51%) | Thyroid cancer | 1438 (11.2%) |
| Colorectal cancer | 871 (9.34%) | Cervical cancer | 1119 (10.13%) | Cervical cancer | 1193 (9.3%) |
| Cervical cancer | 857 (9.19%) | Colorectal cancer | 959 (8.68%) | Colorectal cancer | 1128 (8.8%) |
| Ovarian cancer | 299 (3.20%) | Ovarian cancer | 372 (3.37%) | Ovarian cancer | 434 (3.4%) |
| Liver cancer | 242 (2.59%) | Liver cancer | 292 (2.64%) | Liver cancer | 353 (2.8%) |
| Brain tumor (malignant) | 212 (2.27%) | Gastric cancer | 217 (1.96%) | Lymphoma | 266 (2.1%) |
| Lymphoma | 210 (2.25%) | Lymphoma | 209 (1.89%) | Gastric cancer | 257 (2.0%) |
| Gastric cancer | 178 (1.91%) | Brain tumor (malignant) | 182 (1.65%) | Pancreatic cancer | 202 (1.6%) |
| Leukemia | 165 (1.77%) | Kidney cancer | 171 (1.55%) | Kidney cancer | 183 (1.4%) |
| Kidney cancer | 150 (1.61%) | Leukemia | 158 (1.43%) | Esophageal cancer | 160 (1.2%) |
| Pancreatic cancer | 144 (1.54%) | Esophageal cancer | 156 (1.41%) | Leukemia | 152 (1.2%) |
| Esophageal cancer | 142 (1.52%) | Pancreatic cancer | 156 (1.41%) | Nasopharynx cancer | 131 (1.0%) |
| Nasopharynx cancer | 132 (1.41%) | Nasopharynx cancer | 147 (1.33%) | Brain tumor (malignant) | 108 (0.8%) |

Table 5A: Common characteristics of malignant tumors (2017-2018).

| | 2017 | | | 2018 | | |
|--------------------|---------------|------------|-----------------------------|---------------|------------|-----------------------------|
| | Male / female | Median age | Metastasis (%) ^a | Male / female | Median age | Metastasis (%) ^a |
| Lung cancer | 3268/1526 | 63 | 1489 (31.1) | 3774/1855 | 64 | 2026 (36.0) |
| Colorectal cancer | 1352/871 | 65 | 319 (14.3) | 1474/959 | 64 | 363 (14.9) |
| Breast cancer | 12/1788 | 50 | 137 (7.6) | 17/2226 | 51 | 90 (4.0) |
| Liver cancer | 1048/242 | 60 | 144 (11.2) | 1212/292 | 57 | 140 (9.3) |
| Thyroid cancer | 305/904 | 44 | 7 (0.6) | 427/1161 | 46 | 11 (0.7) |
| Cervical cancer | 0/857 | 50 | 33 (3.9) | 0/1119 | 51 | 32 (2.9) |
| Esophageal cancer | 653/142 | 66 | 43 (5.4) | 708/156 | 66 | 42 (4.9) |
| Gastric cancer | 462/178 | 63 | 61 (9.5) | 601/217 | 62 | 111 (13.6) |
| Prostate cancer | 541/0 | 74 | 189 (34.9) | 686/0 | 74 | 218 (31.8) |
| Nasopharynx cancer | 318/132 | 52 | 27 (6.0) | 438/147 | 50 | 35 (6.0) |
| Kidney cancer | 260/150 | 61 | 33 (8.0) | 254/171 | 60 | 34 (8.0) |
| Bladder cancer | 339/67 | 68 | 7 (1.7) | 381/68 | 68 | 8 (1.8) |
| Pancreatic cancer | 235/144 | 66 | 151 (39.8) | 241/156 | 65 | 152 (38.3) |
| Ovarian cancer | 0/299 | 52 | 77 (25.8) | 0/372 | 52 | 142 (38.2) |
| Lymphoma | 283/210 | 61 | - | 352/209 | 60 | - |
| Leukemia | 198/165 | 50 | - | 234/158 | 47 | - |

a: indicating invasion to adjacent organs or distant metastasis besides regional lymph nodes.

Table 5B: Common characteristics of malignant tumors (2019).

| | 2019 | | | | |
|--------------------|---------------|------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| | Male / female | Median age | Metastasis (%) ^a | Metastasis (male / female) | Median age of metastasis |
| Lung cancer | 4243/2379 | 63 | 1882 (28.4) | 1257/625 | 64 |
| Colorectal cancer | 1696/1128 | 64 | 443(15.7) | 277/166 | 64 |
| Breast cancer | 28/2486 | 50 | 106 (4.2) | 4/102 | 51 |
| Liver cancer | 1342/353 | 59 | 168(9.9) | 125/43 | 61 |
| Thyroid cancer | 501/1438 | 41 | 11 (0.6) | 7/4 | 63 |
| Cervical cancer | 0/1193 | 51 | 36(3.0) | 0/36 | 51 |
| Esophageal cancer | 781/160 | 66 | 65 (6.9) | 61/4 | 67 |
| Gastric cancer | 617/257 | 64 | 121(13.8) | 91/30 | 66 |
| Prostate cancer | 779/0 | 74 | 243 (31.2) | 243/0 | 75 |
| Nasopharynx cancer | 374/131 | 51 | 28(5.5) | 20/8 | 52 |
| Kidney cancer | 343/183 | 61 | 56 (10.6) | 36/20 | 63 |
| Bladder cancer | 381/86 | 68 | 17 (3.6) | 17/0 | 75 |
| Pancreatic cancer | 288/202 | 65 | 215 (43.9) | 127/88 | 65 |
| Ovarian cancer | 0/434 | 53 | 213 (49.1) | 0/213 | 54 |
| Lymphoma | 401/266 | 59 | - | - | - |
| Leukemia | 238/152 | 45 | - | - | - |

a: indicating invasion to adjacent organs or distant metastasis besides regional lymph nodes

managing special medical insurance for tumors. During 2017-2019, 88.5% to 89.2% of the cases in data special medical insurance for malignant tumors were pathologically diagnosed ("gold standard"), showing a significant increase when comparing with the data in 2015 and 2016 [12]. It is suggested that the clinical methods for tumor diagnosis are improving gradually.

Special attention should be paid to the patients who have invasion and metastasis (including lymphatic metastasis) at the time of

registration. Compared with patients with tumors at an early stage, those patients have poorer prognosis and treatment efficacy, resulting in heavy mental, life and economic burdens to the themselves, their families and the society. In 2017, there were 4568 patients with invasion and metastasis, accounting for 22.45%; in 2018, there were 7609 patients with that, accounting for 32.1%; in 2019, the number was increased to 12008 patients, accounting for 44.9%. Significant differences were found in the comparison of above number between any two years (P<0.05, Chi-square test). The reason may be related to

Table 6: Composition ratio of tumors.

| Composition ratio | Lung cancer | Colorectal cancer | Breast cancer | Liver cancer | Cervical cancer | Esophageal cancer | Thyroid cancer | Gastric cancer |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Special diseases in Chongqing in 2017 | 4794/20346 (23.6%)* | 2223/20346 (10.9%) | 1800/20346 (8.8%)* | 1290/20346 (6.3%)* | 857/20346 (4.2%)* | 795/20346 (3.9%)* | 1209/20346 (5.9%)* | 640/20346 (3.1%)* |
| Special diseases in Chongqing in 2018 | 5629/23672 (23.8%)* | 2433/23672 (10.3%) | 2243/23672 (9.5%)* | 1504/23672 (6.4%)* | 1119/23672 (4.7%)* | 864/23672 (3.6%)* | 1588/23672 (6.7%)* | 818/23672 (3.5%)* |
| Special diseases in Chongqing in 2019 | 6622/26765 (24.7%)* | 2824/26765 (10.6%) | 2514/26765 (9.4%)* | 1695/26765 (6.3%)* | 1193/26765 (4.5%)* | 941/26765 (3.5%)* | 1939/26765 (7.2%)* | 874/26765 (3.3%)* |
| National data of onset in 2015 | 784/3929 (20.0%) | 388/3929 (9.9%) | 304/3929 (7.7%) | 370/3929 (9.4%) | 111/3929 (2.8%) | 246/3929 (6.3%) | 201/3929 (5.1%) | 403/3929 (10.3%) |

Note: Compared with the national data in 2015, *P<0.05.

the progress of imaging diagnosis, scope of surgery and pathological diagnosis. Despite these progresses, it is still worthy of our vigilance to control this number, which is a direct reflection of the effectiveness of early diagnosis and treatment of tumors.

In terms of age distribution, the data from 2017-2019 are consistent with those from 2015-2016 [12]. People at age of 60 years to 70 years old were the peak of malignant tumors treatment in both sexes. Figure 2 showed that the age distribution of malignant tumors treatment in men follows a normal distribution with 60 years to 70 years old as the midline. However, it is different in women (Figure 3), and the number of cases of 50 years to 60 years old, 40 years to 50 years old and 60 years to 70 years old are similar, possibly because the tumors (breast cancer, cervical cancer, thyroid cancer, and ovarian cancer) showing a high incidence in women have a younger age of onset. Therefore, screening for breast cancer, cervical cancer, and thyroid cancer in women at the age of 40 may contribute to early diagnosis and treatment.

In terms of type distribution, the top three malignant tumors were always lung cancer, colorectal cancer and breast cancer, which are consistent with that in data from 2015 to 2016 [12]. The above three tumors were also the most common malignant tumors in the world [13,14]. Additionally, thyroid cancer had gradually risen from the seventh place in 2015, the sixth in 2016 to the fifth in 2017 and the fourth in 2018 and 2019, indicating that thyroid cancer had an increasing incidence in Chongqing in recent years. Therefore, thyroid cancer requires increasing vigilance.

The top 4 male malignant tumors were lung cancer, colorectal cancer, liver cancer and esophageal cancer, which are consistent with the data from 2015 to 2016 [12]. However, the cases of prostate cancer increased from the sixth place in 2015 and 2016 to the fifth place at present.

The top five female malignant tumors were breast cancer, lung cancer, thyroid cancer, cervical cancer and colorectal cancer. Compared with data in 2015 and 2016, breast cancer showed top number in both databases, while the cases of thyroid cancer increased from the fifth to the third place, and the increase showed both in number and proportion [12].

Among the common malignant tumors, thyroid cancer showed the youngest age of treatment (41 years to 46 years old), and there were significantly more female patients with thyroid cancer than males, with a male-female ratio of about 1:3. In addition, the onset age of female-specific tumors such as breast cancer, cervical cancer and ovarian cancer is around 50 years old, which leads to a younger peak age of malignant tumors treatment in females than in males, as shown in Figure 3.

We have noted that various malignant tumors have a significant

imbalance in male to female ratio, even after excluding sexual specific tumors such as breast cancer, cervical cancer, prostate cancer and ovarian cancer. For example, the male to female ratio of liver cancer was up to 5:1, thyroid cancer 1:3, esophageal cancer 4:1, bladder cancer 5:1, lung cancer 2:1, gastric cancer 5:2, nasopharynx cancer 5:2, and larynx cancer as high as 30-40:1. The cause for the pronounced gender differences is unclear yet, but it is the basis for targeted tumor screening for different genders.

Tumor invasion and metastasis often indicate poor prognosis of patients. Our data showed that pancreatic cancer has the highest invasion and metastasis rate, reaching 38.3% to 43.9%, followed by ovarian cancer (25.8% to 49.9%), lung cancer (31.1% to 36%) and prostate cancer (31.8% to 34.9%). Besides, over 10% of invasion and metastasis rates were also showed in colorectal cancer, liver cancer, and gastric cancer. Early diagnosis and treatment for these metastasis-prone cancers is of significant importance to improve the prognosis. Thyroid cancer had the lowest metastasis rate, only 0.6% to 0.7%, followed by bladder cancer (1.7% to 1.8%).

We compared the data of special medical insurance for malignant tumors in Chongqing (main urban area) from 2017 to 2019 with the national data of malignant tumors in 2015 [15,16]. The composition ratios of tumors were found to be very different, showing in the ratios of almost all common malignant tumors, indicating that the malignant tumor spectrum in Chongqing (main urban area) had its own characteristics. The composition ratios of gastric cancer, esophageal cancer and liver cancer in data of Chongqing were significantly lower than those of the national data, while the ratios of lung cancer, breast cancer and cervical cancer in Chongqing were significantly higher than those of national data. These differences are theoretical basis for the program development in terms of cancer prevention and treatment in Chongqing. Some differences in composition ratios of tumors were showing when comparing the data in 2019 with those in 2017 and 2018 in Chongqing (main urban area), such as an increase in the composition ratio of thyroid cancer. Therefore, it is necessary to report the city data of malignant tumors every year, so as to understand the change trend of tumor spectrum and to revise the prevention and treatment plan correspondingly.

At last, it is expected that the regular release of data is conducive to the development of early diagnosis and treatment plan for malignant tumors in Chongqing, thereby serving the citizens.

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