

The Peculiarities of Treatment for Hepatic Hemangiomas

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Background: A hepatic hemangiomas is a common benign tumor of the liver. Hepatic hemangiomas are generally asymptomatic and incidentally diagnosed during the imaging of the abdominal cavity. Hemangiomas are composed of masses of blood vessels that are atypical or irregular in arrangement and size. The indications for surgical treatment for hepatic hemangiomas still remain disputable.

Methods: A retrospective study of 183 patients diagnosed with hepatic hemangiomas has been conducted. In 149 patients (81.4%) in Group A the size of hemangiomas was no more than 10 cm (23 of the patients in the above-mentioned group were diagnosed with multiple hemangiomas). A dynamic surveillance in the patients in Group A has been implemented twice a year. Increase in the size of hemangiomas for unidentified reasons was observed in 9 patients in this group (6%). Yet biochemical testing has not revealed any reliable statistical deviations. In Group B there were 25 patients (13.7%), in whom hepatic hemangiomas were 10-20 cm. And in Group C there were 9 patients (4.9%), in whom hepatic hemangiomas were >20 cm. Patients in Group B and Group C underwent surgical treatment for hepatic hemangiomas. A comparison was then made between the groups.

Results: Expressed anemia ($P<0.001$), thrombocytopenia ($P<0.001$), prolonged prothrombin time ($P<0.001$) were observed in Group C patients, with IPT low and PT high on the 5-7th postoperative days. The extremely giant hemangioma group had more blood loss ($P<0.001$) and greater postoperative stays ($P<0.001$), increased hepatic enzymes (AST, ALT), increased levels of total bilirubin, decreased albumin levels ($P<0.001$). One of the patients with a giant hemangioma had bleeding in the postoperative period, in connection with which relaparotomy was performed and bleeding was arrested. One patient had bile leakage, which stopped on its own on the 11th postoperative day. No complications occurred in Group B patients during the post-operative period, changes in hepatic enzymes were minor.

Conclusion: The giant hepatic hemangiomas are, the later liver resection is performed, the more abnormalities in the hematologic and coagulation systems occur. Moreover, the restoration of the liver function proceeds more slowly, which contributes to the prolongation of postoperative stays as well as increased risk of postoperative complications.