

3936394 SIEP/M : MAJOR : EPIDEMIOLOGY ; M.Sc. (EPIDEMIOLOGY)

KEY WORD : SURVIVAL / OESOPHAGEAL CANCER

SIRAPRAPHA PERMNARK : SURVIVAL OF PATIENTS WITH OESOPHAGEAL CANCER IN THAILAND. THESIS ADVISOR : JAYANTON PATUMMANOND, D.Sc. (Clin. Epid.). NATCHAPORN PICHAINARONG, Dr.P.H.(Epid.). DUSIT SUJIRARAT, M.Sc. (Biostat.). CHANIN KHINJONGKOL, M.D., F.I.C.S. (Thoracic Surgery). 135 p. ISBN 974-661-006-6

A retrospective cohort study was carried out at 14 hospitals selected from every region in Thailand from 1st January 1992 - 31st December 1996. The objective of the study is to describe survival time and to assess the prognostic factor of oesophageal cancer patients. A total of 1,313 patients were recorded during the reference period, including males 79.66 % and females 20.34 % with a mean of age 62.93 years (range 20-96 years). The most commonly present symptom was dysphagia (80.35 %). There was patients with stage O and I, stage IIA, stage IIB, stage III and stage IV (4.11 %, 34.35 %, 15.69 %, 32.35 % and 13.33 % respectively). The distribution of disease by site was : upper part 20.41 %, middle part 50.11 %, lower part 29.48 %. The histological type of tumors was squamous cell carcinoma 92.23 % and adenocarcinoma 7.62 %.

The overall 5-year survival was 16.68 % and median survival time was 10.30 months. The 5-year survival of stage O and I, stage II, stage III and stage IV were 26.75 %, 20.50 %, 9.50 % and 3.50 % respectively. In univariate analysis, there was no statistically difference in survival between patients regarding age, sex, marital status, education, occupation, tumor site and histological type. Stepwise Cox's proportional hazard regression found that the prognostic factors of oesophageal cancer patients was stage, histological grading, lymphnode metastasis, tumor size, treatment and age ($p < 0.001$). The main suggestion based on this study is that patients aged ≥ 50 years should be investigated carefully. Projects for improvement in treatment and other factors are also proposed.