

Time Series Analysis of QOL of Cancer Patients; correlation between daily living symptoms and symptom distress

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Introduction

Monitoring patients' QOL is very important for daily care. Some indexes have been proposed to evaluate QOL.



How daily activities and symptom distress influence QOL?



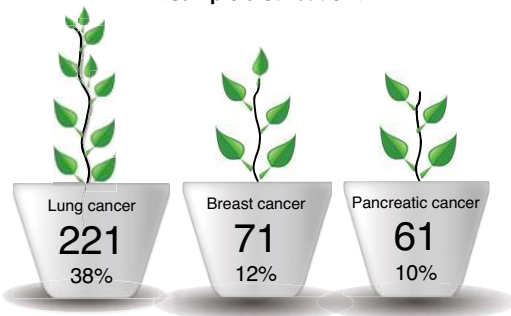
The chronological data of Daily Living Symptoms(DLS) factors and Symptom Distress(SD) factors were analyzed to study their relationship.

Materials and methods

Clinical data:

- 2539 patients with terminal cancer
- Collected in palliative care unit in Kawasaki Municipal Ida Hospital from 1998.10 to 2014.4.
- Analyzed 584 patients who survived more than 30 days in palliative care

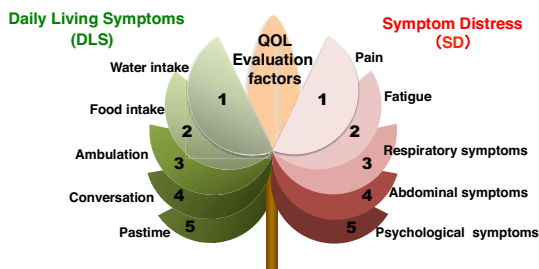
< Sample distribution >



Method:

- In accordance with the previous study, the assessment used 5 DLS and 5 SD factors to evaluate QOL¹⁾
- Assessed every day with a scoring system by attending nurses
- Calculated the correlation coefficient between the factors, considering the time (day) lag

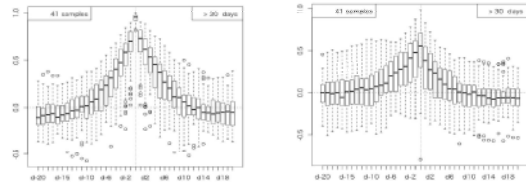
< The factors composing DLS and SD >



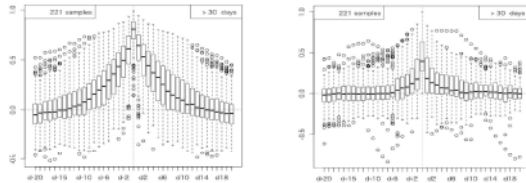
Results

The correlation coefficients are shown as a function of day lag in the figures.

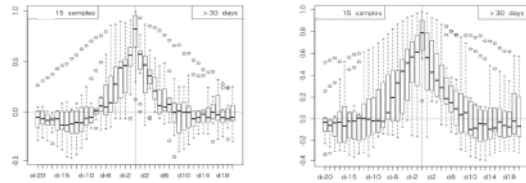
1. For patients of any condition, **DLS** (RC=0.91-0.97) have a stronger correlation with QOL than **SD** (RC= 0.26-0.74)



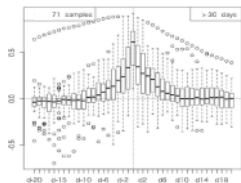
2. The correlation of **each DLS factor** with **DLS sum** (RC=0.60- 0.88) is stronger than that of **SD** (RC=0.60- 0.88)



3. Of all SD factors, **pain and fatigue** are strongly correlated with **SD sum** (RC=0.60-0.77)



4. For breast cancer, **psychological symptoms** also correlate with **SD sum** (RC= 0.61)



5. The time structure is symmetrical in every case
- no causality is identified

Conclusions

- Helping patients to live independently may enhance their QOL, as is also verified in chronological analysis.
- All DLS factors are interconnected. If you improve one factor, the total could be improved.
- No causality was seen between the factors, although they relate mutually.
- In management of symptom distress, pain and fatigue contribute most.
- For breast cancer patients, psychological symptoms would be important.



Literature cited

- 1) Analysis of factors for the prognosis of symptom palliation in patients with terminal cancer using Integrated Distress-Activities score (IDA score) H.Ishiguro, Shi no Rinsho Vol. 20 No.1, 59-63 1997/9

Acknowledgements

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