

SCAPULECTOMY IN TUMORS OF SCAPULA AND ITS OUTCOME. MALAYSIAN EXPERIENCE

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INTRODUCTION:

The shoulder girdle is the third most common site for musculoskeletal tumors, including bone metastases. The surgical treatment of scapular tumors can be extremely difficult, achieving clear resection margins being challenging because of anatomic constraints. Similarly, maintaining shoulder stability and arm function after surgery is the main aim. The case series aims to report Single-center experience on the outcome of scapulectomy.

MATERIALS & METHODS :

This is a retrospective review of patients that have done partial or total scapulectomy in Penang General Hospital in the year 2020 to 2022. The outcome measures in Oncological outcome and functional status, based of Musculoskeletal Tumor Society (MSTS) score

RESULTS :

There were total of 4 cases (3males and 1 female) with the mean age of 50 years old (31-67). The type of tumors were malignant peripheral nerve sheath tumor, undifferentiated pleomorphic sarcoma and 2 Scapula Ewing's Sarcoma where two had undergone partial scapulectomy (1 cut at infraspinatus region, 1 Tikhoff - Linberg type II) and 2 total scapulectomy (Tikhoff-Linberg type III and shoulder suspension) Mean follow up were 14.5months (5 - 24 months) and mean MSTS score : 21/30 (67%). 2 patients unfortunately suffered from distant metastases and eventually passed on, and one patient documented with delayed wound healing.

DISCUSSION:

Scapulectomy can result in excellent local tumor control. Although some loss of active shoulder motion may occur, hand, wrist and elbow function is preserved.

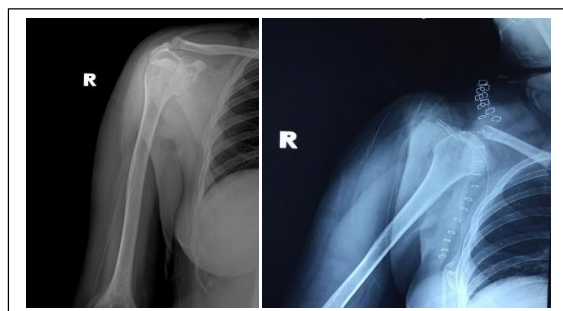


Figure 1: Xray imaging before and after total Scapulectomy and shoulder suspension



Figure 2 : patient post total scapulectomy with shoulder suspension, able to elevate shoulder above waist

CONCLUSION:

Although maintenance of shoulder function should not take precedence over adequacy of resection, scapulectomy remains an excellent procedure for malignant disease that preserves hand, wrist, and elbow function.

References

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