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IgA 신증에서의 반월형 병변의 임상적 의의

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Clinical Implication of Crescentic Lesion in IgA Nephropathy

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Background: Early case series showed that the presence of crescents was associated with proteinuria and rapid deterioration in kidney function in patients with immunoglobulin A nephropathy (IgAN). However, to date, there has been much controversy about the role of crescentic lesions as a significant prognostic factor. This study, therefore, evaluated whether crescentic lesions predict adverse renal outcomes in these patients.

Methods: A total of 430 patients with biopsy-proven IgAN diagnosed between January 2001 and December 2010 were included. Histologic variables of the Oxford classification (Oxford-MEST) and the presence of crescents were assessed. The primary endpoint was a 50% decline in estimated glomerular filtration rate (eGFR).

Results: Of the 430 patients, 81 (18.8%) had a crescentic lesion. During a mean follow-up of 61 months, the primary outcome occurred in 19 (23.5%) patients with crescents, compared to 40 (11.5%) patients without crescents (p= 0.01). A Kaplan-Meier plot showed that the10-year renal survival rate was significantly lower in patients with crescents than patients without crescents (p=0.01); however, in a multivariable Cox analysis that included clinical factors and the Oxford-MEST, crescents were not significantly associated with an increased risk of developing the primary outcome [hazard ratio: 0.78, 95% confidence interval (CI): 0.40-1.51, p=0.48]. Furthermore, adding crescents to the Oxford classification did not improve the discriminative ability for the prediction of renal outcomes [c-statistic: 0.86 (0.81-0.91) vs. 0.86 (0.80-0.91), p=0.35].

Conclusions: This study showed that crescentic lesions are not an independent prognostic factor, suggesting that crescents have limited value in predicting renal outcome of IgAN. Further studies are required to elucidate whether crescents may have clinical implications in severe IgAN or IgAN with rapidly progressive nature.

Key Words: IgA 신증, 반월형, 옥스포드 분류
IgA nephropathy, Crescents, The Oxford classification