SLOW GROWING LUNG CANCER IN A FIXED POPULATION SAMPLE RADIOLOGICAL ASSESSMENTS

固定集団における発育の遅い肺癌のX線学的検討

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RADIATION EFFECTS RESEARCH FOUNDATION 財団法人 放射線影響研究所 A Cooperative Japan — United States Research Organization 日米共同研究機関

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SUMMARY

Radiographs generated during 20 years of biennial chest radiography of 107 patients with histologically proven lung cancer were reviewed for radiological evidence of slow growing lesions. Twenty-nine solitary circumscribed peripheral masses which doubled in volume in five or more months prior to any therapy were considered slow growing. By these criteria, 7 (17%) of 41 squamous cell carcinomas were slow growing, whereas 22 (42%) of 52 adenocarcinomas grew slowly. There were no slow growing tumors among the 14 anaplastic carcinomas or cancer of other histological type. The mean doubling time was 5.7 months for the seven squamous cell carcinomas and 13.1 months for the 22 adenocarcinomas. The cancers tended to grow more slowly in females than males. There was no appreciable difference between the mean age of the 29 patients with slow growing lesions and that of the remaining 78 patients. Not only was the majority of cancer in the present study readily detectable by radiographic screening of the chest, patient survival correlated very well with the growth rates of the lesions. These data proved that an appreciable percentage of lung cancer does develop slowly, especially adenocarcinoma.

INTRODUCTION

Many primary lung cancers grow so rapidly that it is difficult to detect them radiologically sufficiently early to treat them surgically. Other lung cancers grow so slowly that they are

要約

組織学的に証明された肺癌患者107人について、発育 の遅い肺癌のX線学的所見について検討した. いか なる治療も始める前のフィルムで体積が2倍となるの に要する時間が5か月以上かかった孤在性の肺野腫瘤 29例をゆっくり発育するとみなした. その結果, 扁平 上皮癌は41例のうち7例(17%)がこの基準に相当し, 腺癌52例では22例(42%)であった。未分化癌やその 他の組織型の癌14例ではゆっくり発育する腫瘍はな かった. 平均 doubling time は扁平上皮癌 7 例では 5.7か月, 腺癌22例では13.1か月であった. 男性より も女性の方が癌はよりゆっくり発育する傾向が見ら れた. 発育の遅い病巣をもつ29名の患者と、残り78名 の患者との平均年齢の間に差異は認められなかった. 今回の調査における癌の大部分は胸部X線スクリー ニングで容易に発見されるだけでなく, 患者の生存 も病巣の発育速度に相関した. これらの結果から かなりの率の肺癌, 特に腺癌がゆっくり発育すると 考えられた.

緒言

多くの原発性肺癌は急速に発育し、X線検査で外科 的に治療できるほど早期に発見することは困難で ある、一方、発育が非常に遅いため、X線検査では

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sometimes misdiagnosed radiologically as granulomas or as benign tumors. Earlier radiological observations of lung cancer in the Adult Health Study (AHS) sample through 1971 by Nakata et al¹ showed that 6 (21%) of 29 tumors grew slowly, but there were relatively few patients in that study. No correlation was established between the histological type and growth rate of those cases, though the histological type may well have influenced the growth rate. comprehensive report of slow growing lung cancer among 107 cases detected in the AHS sample through 1978 included an additional 78 patients which developed since the 29 cases studied by Nakata et al. This report of comparisons of slow and rapid developing lung cancer in a fixed population is truly unique; no such reports are to be found in the literature.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The ABCC-RERF AHS, inaugurated in 1958, is an intensive ongoing clinical investigation of a fixed cohort originally numbering 20,000 exposed and nonexposed subjects, for late effects of the atomic bombs.² Participants receive a complete physical and laboratory examination biennially, including posteroanterior (PA) and lateral (1958 to 1970) and PA stereoscopic and lateral (from 1971) chest radiography and other indicated radiological examinations. Approximately 80% of AHS subjects return for biennial reexamination.³ In the past, the autopsy rate in the AHS sample has ranged up to 49% of annual deaths.⁴

By 1978, 107 histologically confirmed cases of primary lung cancer in persons who regularly received biennial chest radiography were available for review. Among the 64 cancers identified by biennial chest radiography,5 37 were solitary peripheral lesions which were reexamined radiographically for known periods of time prior to Using the method originally any therapy. described by Collins et al,6 the volume-doubling times were estimated for these 37 tumors (Figure 1 & Appendix). The mean of the maximal tumor diameter in the PA and lateral projections was calculated without correcting for magnification. Peripheral lesions that doubled in volume in five or more months, were considered slow growing. The correlation between the cancer doubling time and patient survival was calculated using regression analysis. The significance of regression was determined by analysis of variance.

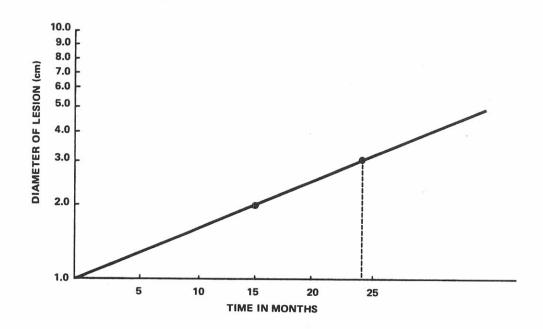
肉芽腫や良性腫瘍と誤診される肺癌もみられる。中田ら¹ は1971年までの成人健康調査対象者における肺癌29例についての X 線学的観察結果を報告し、うち6例(21%)がゆっくり発育したと述べている。しかし、この報告では例数が比較的少なく、また組織型が発育速度に影響を及ぼすことが十分考えられるが、これらの例においては組織型と発育速度との間の相関については検討されていない。今回、我々は中田らが報告した29症例に1978年までの成人健康調査において新たに発見された78例を追加し107例について検討した。固定集団における発育の遅い肺癌と速い肺癌の比較を行った報告は文献には見られないので、今回の報告は誠にユニークであると考えられる。

対象及び方法

1958年に開始された ABCC・放影研成人健康調査は原爆の後影響を究明する目的をもって、当初20,000人の被爆及び非被爆対象者から成る固定集団について現在もなお強力に実施されている臨床的調査である・2 対象者は、胸部 X 線直接撮影の正面及び側面撮影(1958~70年)、正面ステレオ及び側面撮影(1971年以降)、及び必要に応じた他の X 線検査などを含む完全な理学的並びに臨床的検査を 2 年に 1 回受けている・成人健康調査対象者の約80%は現在も2年ごとの検査を受けている・3 また、成人健康調査対象者における剖検率は年間死亡者の49%に及んだこともある・4

検討対象は1978年までに2年に1回の胸部X線検査を定期的に受け、組織学的に診断された原発性肺癌107例である.このうち、2年ごとの胸部X線直接撮影によって病巣を指摘し得る64例の癌のうち37例は弧在性末梢性病変で、治療前に2回以上のX線検査を受けている.5 Collins ら6の方法を用いて、病巣体積が2倍に達する時間(doubling time)をこれら37例の腫瘍について推定した(図1及び付録).正面及び側面撮影における最大腫瘍直径の平均を拡大に対して修正を行わず算出した.末梢性病変で体積が2倍となるのに5か月以上かかったものは、発育の遅いものとした.癌のdoubling time と患者の生存との相関は回帰解析を用いて算出した.回帰の有意性は、分散分析法によって検定した.

FIGURE 1 SEMILOGARITHMIC GROWTH RATE CHART 図 1 半対数発育速度



RESULTS

The cancers of 6 of the 37 patients with solitary peripheral lesions were reexamined radiographically for more than five years prior to any therapy. The lesions of nine additional cases were similarly followed for more than three years. The tumors of these 15 cases were observed by serial radiography because the lesions were: 1) not detectable prospectively and/or were overlooked (2 cases); 2) very small and not definitely diagnosed (4 cases); 3) misdiagnosed as pulmonary tuberculosis (5 cases); and 4) a combination of the three conditions (4 cases).

The correlation of the cancer doubling time with patient survival after the lesions attained a diameter of 1.0 cm was examined for the 37 solitary peripheral lesions which were observed by two or more chest radiographies. There was no significant difference by sex and age for doubling time and survival, for lesions 1.0 cm or more in diameter. The results are shown by histological type in Figures 2 and 3; results using regression equations for adenocarcinoma and squamous cell carcinoma proved statistically significant. For 26 adenocarcinomas the regression equation (Y) was 6.18x + 6.99 (P<0.005)

結 果

孤在性末梢性病変をもつ37症例のうち6例では、治療を開始する前に5年以上にわたってX線検査が行われていた.更に9例では3年以上の期間があった.これら15例は、1)病巣が後のフィルムとの比較で初めて発見できたものと最初の病巣を見落としたため2回以上のX線フィルムがあるもの(2例)、2)極めて小さくて確実に診断できないため期間をおいたもの(4例)、3)肺結核と誤診されていたもの(5例)、4)これら三つが混在したもの(4例)であった.

癌の doubling time と病巣の直径が 1 cm に達した後の患者の生存期間の相関を、2回以上の胸部 X線フィルムのある孤在性末梢性病変37例についてまとめてみた。直径1.0 cm以上の病巣の doubling time 及び生存期間は性及び年齢別に有意な差異は認められなかった。得られた結果を図2及び3に組織型別に示した。回帰方程式を用いて解析したところ、腺癌及び扁平上皮癌それぞれに統計学的に有意差が認められた。腺癌26例については、回帰方程式(Y)は6.18 x +6.99(P<0.005)で相関係数(r)は0.86で

FIGURE 2 CORRELATION OF DOUBLING TIME WITH SURVIVAL FOR CANCER 1.0 cm OR MORE IN DIAMETER FOR 11 CASES OF SQUAMOUS CELL CARCINOMA

図 2 扁平上皮癌11例中直径1.0cm以上の癌の doubling time と生存期間の相関

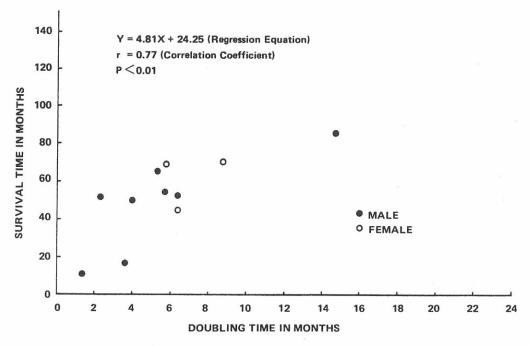
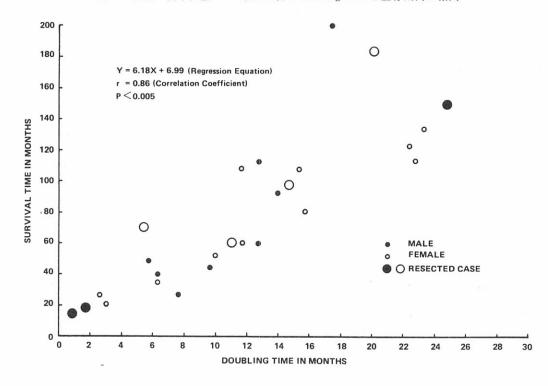


FIGURE 3 CORRELATION OF DOUBLING TIME WITH SURVIVAL FOR CANCER 1.0 cm or more in diameter for 26 cases of adenocarcinoma

図3 腺癌26例中直径1.0cm以上の癌のdoubling time と生存期間の相関



and the correlation coefficient (r) was 0.86. For the 11 squamous cell carcinomas, the regression equation (Y) was 4.81x + 24.25 (P<0.01) and the correlation coefficient (r) was 0.77. The treatment administered had little effect on patient survival, probably because, except for seven adenocarcinomas, the lesions were not resected. The survival of those 7 patients was likewise no better than for the remaining 19 adenocarcinoma patients (Figure 3).

Among the 37 solitary peripheral tumors, 29 with tumor volume doubling in five or more months, were considered slow growing. It is improbable that any of the cancers in the peripheral portions of the lungs other than these 29 doubled in volume during five or more months. Among the 64 lung cancers detected in the present study, the volume of 8 doubled in less than five months (Figures 2 and 3). Seventeen cancers initially consisted of multiple nodules or were manifested only by secondary changes. Four solitary cancers were located in the hilar regions. Six cancers which were observed only once by chest radiography likewise had little possibility of doubling in volume during five or more months. All six had normal chest radiographs at RERF from 18 to 25 months before the lesions were discovered, and five of the six had tumors greater than 3.0 cm in diameter at the time of detection. If we assume each tumor was 0.9 cm in diameter at the time of the last normal chest radiography of the patient, those five tumors necessarily doubled in volume in less than 4.5 months. Only one of these six cases (squamous cell carcinoma) was 2.4 cm in diameter after 23 months of normal chest radiography, and there was little probability of its volume doubling in five or more months. The probability is also slight for any of the 43 undetected cancers to have doubled in volume at such a slow rate; none of the 43 were visualized in the peripheral lung field when less than 3.0 cm in diameter at the time of detection elsewhere (Table 1).

Table 2 contrasts the 29 slow growing peripheral cancers with the remaining 78 cancers according to histological type. Twenty-two (42%) of the 52 adenocarcinomas and 7 (17%) of 41 squamous cell carcinomas grew slowly in the peripheral portions of the lungs. No anaplastic carcinoma in the present study developed slowly. The mean doubling time of the 22 slow growing adenocarci-

あった.一方扁平上皮癌11例については,回帰方程式 (Y) は $4.81 \times +24.25$ (P < 0.01) で相関係数(r) は0.77であった.腺癌7 例を除けば,病巣を切除しなかったためか患者の生存率に対する治療による影響はほとんどみられなかった.これら7 人の切除例の生存率も残り19人の腺癌患者と変わらなかった(図3).

今回の検討では弧在性末梢性腫瘍37例のうち,5か月 以上かかって体積が2倍になった腫瘍をもつ29例を 発育が遅いと考えた.これら29例以外の肺の末梢部 に発育した癌の体積が5か月以上かかって2倍になるこ とはほとんど起こり得ないと考えたからである. すなわち、今回の調査で発見された肺癌64例のうち 8 例の体積は, 5 か月未満で 2 倍になった(図 2, 3). 更に17例の癌は当初から多発性小結節で構成 されていたり, あるいは二次的変化によってのみ認 められた. 孤在性癌 4 例は肺門部腫瘍として認めら れた. 胸部 X 線検査によってわずか1回のみ観察 された6例の癌も同様に、5か月以上の間に体積が 2倍になる可能性はほとんどないと考えた. それは, これら6例はすべて病巣が発見される18か月から 25か月前の放影研における胸部 X 線写真に腫瘤陰影 が認められず, しかもそのうち5例は発見時には直径 3.0cm以上の腫瘍に発育していたからである. もし 各腫瘍が患者の最後の正常な胸部X線検査時において 直径0.9cmであったと仮定すると、これら5例の腫瘍 は4.5か月未満の間に体積が2倍になったと考えら れる. これら 6 例 (すべて扁平上皮癌) のうち 1 例 のみが正常な胸部 X 線検査から23か月後に直径が 2.4cmになっており、その体積が5か月以上かかって 2倍になる確率をわずかに有するのみである. 発見 されなかった43例の癌についても、このような遅い 速度で体積が2倍になる確率は同様に低い. 放影研 以外の所で発見時に直径が3.0cm未満で末梢肺野に X線的に確認されたものは1例もなかったからで ある(表1).

表 2 は,発育の遅い末梢肺癌 29例と残り78例の癌を 組織型別に対比したものである. 腺癌 52例のうち 22例 (42%)と扁平上皮癌 41例のうち 7 例 (17%)と が肺の末梢部でゆっくり発育した. 今回の検査では 未分化癌でゆっくり発育した症例はなかった. 発育

TABLE 1 INITIAL RADIOGRAPHIC MANIFESTATION OF 107 LUNG CANCERS 表 1 肺癌 107例における最初の X 線異常陰影

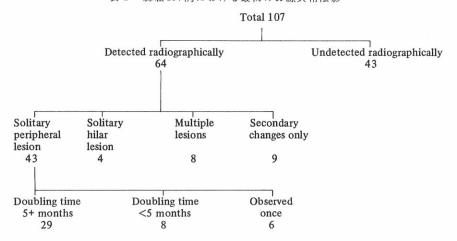


TABLE 2 RATE OF SLOW GROWING CANCER AND MEAN DOUBLING TIME ACCORDING TO TYPE

表 2 組織型別発育の遅い癌の割合及びその doubling time

	A. Slow	Growing Tumor	B. Remaining	Rate % (A/A+B)	
Type of Carcinoma	Number	Mean Doubling Time (Months)	Tumor		
Squamous cell	7	5.7	34		
Adeno	22	13.1	30	42.3	
Small cell anaplastic	0	500 500 500	8	0	
Large cell anaplastic	0	-	4	0	
Other	0	-	2	0	
Total	29	11.3	78	27.1	

TABLE 3 RATE OF SLOW GROWING CANCER ACCORDING TO SEX AND TYPE 表 3 性及び組織型別発育の遅い癌の割合

Type of Carcinoma		Male		Female				
	A. Slow Growing Tumor	B. Remaining Tumor	Rate % (A/A+B)	A. Slow Growing Tumor	B. Remaining Tumor	Rate % (A/A+B)		
Squamous cell	4	27	12.9	3	7	30.0		
Adeno	10	18	35.7	12	12	50.0		
Other	0	9	0.0	0	5	0.0		
Total	14	54	20.6	15	24	38.5		

TABLE 4 MEAN AGE OF LUNG CANCER PATIENTS BY TYPE 表 4 肺癌患者の組織型別平均年齢

	Mean Age in Years				
Type of Carcinoma	Peripheral Slow Growing Cancer Patients	Remaining Cancer Patients 67.6			
Squamous cell	73.8				
Adeno	62.1	64.5			
Small cell anaplastic	-	66.6			
Large cell anaplastic		62.5			
Other		66.5			
Mean Age	65.0	65.9			

nomas was 13.1 months; that of the seven squamous cell carcinomas was 5.7 months.

Table 3 shows the rates of slow growing tumors according to sex and histological type. The cancers tended to grow more slowly in females than males. Thirty-sex percent of the adenocarcinomas in males grew slowly, compared to 50% of the adenocarcinomas in females. For squamous cell carcinoma, the values were 13% and 30%, respectively.

Table 4 shows the mean age distribution of patients according to histological type. Patients with slow growing squamous cell carcinoma were older than those with cancer of other types. For squamous cell carcinoma, there was a slight difference between the mean age of patients with slow growing lesions and the remainder, but there was no appreciable difference for each of the other types, or for all types combined.

Scrutiny of the radiographs of the 43 solitary peripheral lung cancers failed to reveal any particular radiographic characteristics of the 29 slow growing lesions, as opposed to those of the remaining 14 rapidly growing cancers. All but one patient with slow growing cancer had no symptoms when the lesions were initially apparent on chest radiography. The remaining 14 patients with rapid growing cancer likewise had no symptoms.

There was close correlation between frequency of cigarette smoking and tumor histology; specifically, squamous cell carcinoma.^{7,8} But in

の遅い腺癌22例の平均 doubling time は13.1か月で, 扁平上皮癌 7 例では5.7か月であった.

表3は発育の遅い腫瘍の占める割合を性及び組織型別に示したものである. 男性よりも女性においてよりゆっくり発育する傾向があった. 腺癌においては男性の36%がゆっくり発育したのに対し,女性では50%であった. 扁平上皮癌については,その値は男女各々13%と30%であった.

表4は患者の平均年齢,分布を組織型別に示したものである。発育の遅い扁平上皮癌患者は,他の組織型の癌患者よりも高齢であった。扁平上皮癌については,発育の遅い病巣をもつ患者と残りの患者の平均年齢にはわずかに差が認められたが,他の組織型の癌あるいは全組織型を合計した癌については差は認められなかった。

孤在性末梢性肺癌43例を発育の遅い病巣29例と残り14例の発育の速い癌に分けてX線写真を再検討し、X線的特徴を明らかにしようと試みたが、はっきりとした差はなかった。病巣が発見されるまでの症状について同じ43例を検討すると、発育の遅い癌では1名を除くすべての患者が胸部X線検査で初めて病巣が見られるようになったときは症状がなかった。発育の速い癌の14例でも同様に症状を有する症例はなかった。

喫煙頻度と腫瘍の組織型,特に扁平上皮癌との間には強い相関が認められているが,7,8 今回の調査で

this study there was no correlation between the frequency of cigarette smoking and the rate of tumor growth. There was no correlation between rate of tumor growth and A-bomb dose of the subject.

DISCUSSION

Use of the method originally described by Collins et al⁶ for calculating volume doubling time for tumor growth necessitates two assumptions; 1) that an opacity visualized by chest radiography is due entirely to the tumor itself, and 2) that a tumor grows symmetrically and constantly. In fact, the radiographic manifestations of primary lung cancer are sometimes caused by abnormalities other than the tumor itself, including atelectasis and secondary inflammation, and some lung cancer has central necrosis which is incapable of growth. Despite this, the method of Collins is useful and convenient. Since tumor growth rate is fairly constant throughout the time it can be visualized radiographically, this rate may be reasonably averaged over a period of time. The doubling time of a tumor has special significance if it correlates with patient survival, as described by Weiss et al.8 In the present study survival and doubling time correlate well in that way. Therefore, comparisons of slow growing lung cancer with the other tumors according to doubling time, are considered very meaningful.

In the present study, to be considered slow growing radiologically, the cancer was necessarily located in the peripheral portion of the lungs, and the volume doubled after five or more months. Generally, a tumor less than 1 cm in diameter is considered undetectable radiographically. Theoretically, all tumors that doubled in volume in five or more months were detectable when they were 1.0 cm to 3.0 cm in diameter during biennial radiographic screening at RERF (Figure 1). In the present study, all cancers but one which were observed for more than 18 months doubled in volume in 5 or more months.

Garland¹² reported that 20% of all patients with primary lung cancer with previous chest radiographs available for review had radiographic abnormalities for one year or more. Weiss et al, 8 using their original 18 cases and 75 more from the literature, reported that 25% of bronchogenic cancers doubled in volume in more than six months. Steele and Buell¹³ estimated that at least 80% of the doubling times are six months

は、喫煙頻度と腫瘍の発育速度の間に相関は認められなかった. 腫瘍の発育速度と対象者の原爆被曝線量との間には相関は認められなかった.

考察

Collins ら 6 の doubling time の計算方法は以下の二つ の仮定に基づいている. 1) 胸部X線検査で見られれる 病巣の陰影はすべて腫瘍による. 2)腫瘍は一定の 速度で, どの方向にも同じように発育する. しかし ながら, 実際には原発性肺癌の X 線陰影は無気肺や 二次的炎症など腫瘍以外の異常によっても引き起こ されることがあり、また中心に懐死をもつ場合も ある. にもかかわらず、Collins の方法は臨床上有用 である. それは、腫瘍の発育はX線で確認できる 期間,ほぼ一定であるため,7ある期間は平均を算出 することができるからである. 更に、Weiss ら8が 述べているように腫瘍の doubling time が患者の生存 期間と相関するならば特別の意味をもつ. 今回の 検討では生存期間と doubling time はよく相関した. したがって、発育の遅い肺癌と速い肺癌との doubling time の比較は非常に有意義であると思われる.

今回の検討では、X線で発育が遅い癌であるとみなすには、その癌は部位が肺の末梢部にあって体積が5か月以上かかって2倍になるものとした。一般的に直径が $1 \, \mathrm{cm}$ 未満の腫瘍は $X \, \mathrm{線}$ では発見できないと思われるので、 9^{-11} 理論的には $5 \, \mathrm{b}$ 月以上かかって体積が $2 \, \mathrm{fe}$ となったすべての腫瘍は、放影研で $2 \, \mathrm{fe}$ に $1 \, \mathrm{回実施する} \, X \, \mathrm{kg}$ スクリーニング中に直径が $1.0 \, \mathrm{cm}$ から $3.0 \, \mathrm{cm}$ であれば発見できることになる(図1)。今回の検討では、 $18 \, \mathrm{b}$ 月間以上観察した $1 \, \mathrm{cm}$ を除くすべての癌は $5 \, \mathrm{b}$ 月以上かかって体積が $2 \, \mathrm{fe}$ となった.

Garland¹² は検討のために以前の胸部 X 線写真が入手できた原発性肺癌患者の20%が 1 年以上の間 X 線写真に異常陰影を呈したと報告した。Weiss ら ⁸ は,彼ら自身が有する18症例と更に文献にみられる75例とを用いて,気管支原発癌の25%が体積が2倍になるために6か月以上を要したと報告した。一方 Steeleと Buell¹³ は少なくとも80%の癌の doubling time は

or less. These reports, however, were not based on fixed cohorts, and there was no mention of any correlation between tumor growth rate and histological type. Rates of slow growing tumors estimated by such investigators therefore vary a great deal.

In the present study, 7 (17%) of 41 squamous cell carcinomas and 22 (42%) of 52 adenocarcinomas were regarded as slow growing. Neither small nor large cell anaplastic carcinoma grew slowly. Although some adenocarcinoma develop very rapidly, adenocarcinoma tends to grow more slowly than squamous cell or anaplastic carcinoma. In the series of Garland et al7 the average volume doubling time for 22 squamous cell carcinomas was 4.2 months; for nine undifferentiated lung cancers, 4.1 months; and for seven adenocarcinomas, 7.3 months. Charbit et al14 reported that the geometric mean of the doubling times of 97 primary squamous cell carcinomas was 81.8 days, and that the value for 34 primary adenocarcinomas was 166.3 days. In the present study, the mean volume doubling time for seven slow growing squamous cell carcinomas was 5.6 months; while that for 22 adenocarcinomas was 13.1 months. However, variations in slow growing tumor rates by histological type may also be related to cancer site of origin and its radiological appearance. Adenocarcinoma usually first appears as a mass in the peripheral portion of the lung¹⁵; whereas, the majority of squamous cell carcinoma is manifested by a hilar or perihilar mass, or signs of bronchial obstruction.16 The most common manifestation of small cell anaplastic carcinoma is a hilar or perihilar mass. 17,18 Radiologically, adenocarcinomas are therefore more frequently observed to be slow growing tumors than are cancers of other types.

Other factors can influence tumor growth. There are few reports of correlation between tumor growth and sex, but in the present study both squamous cell carcinoma and adenocarcinoma in males seemed to develop more repidly than in females. This effect is probably enhanced by the fact that females outnumber males in the AHS sample nearly two to one. However, sex influences the rate of slow growing tumors less than histological type.

Patients with slow growing cancer are generally older than those with rapid growing lesions, ¹³ although there was no strong tendency for this

6か月以内であると推定した。しかしこれらの報告は固定集団に基づいておらず、また腫瘍の発育速度と組織型との相関については触れていない。したがって、このような研究者らによって推定された発育の遅い腫瘍の率は変動が大きい。

今回の調査において扁平上皮癌41例中7例(17%) 及び腺癌52例中22例(42%)が発育が遅いと考えられ た. 小細胞未分化癌も大細胞未分化癌も発育は速 かった. 腺癌は発育の非常に速いものもあったが, 扁平上皮癌や未分化癌よりも発育は遅い傾向がみら れた. Garland ら⁷ の報告によると, 扁平上皮癌22例 の平均 doubling time は4.2か月で、未分化肺癌 9例 では4.1か月,及び腺癌7例では7.3か月であった という. Charbit ら14は, 原発性扁平上皮癌97例の doubling time の幾何平均は81.8日で, 原発性腺癌 34例は166.3日であったと報告している。今回の検討 では,発育の遅い扁平上皮癌 7 例の平均 doubling time は5.6か月で、腺癌22例は13.1か月であった. しかし,組織型別に発育の遅い腫瘍の割合が変動 するのは、癌の発生部位及びそのX線陰影にも関係 すると考えられる. 腺癌は大抵の場合肺の末梢部の 腫瘤として現れるが、15扁平上皮癌はそのほとんどが 肺門や肺門周囲の腫瘤,又は気管支閉塞の徴候と して認められる.16小細胞未分化癌の多くは肺門や 肺門周囲の腫瘤として認められる.17,18 したがって X線的には、腺癌は他の組織型の癌に比較して発育 の遅い癌として最も多く認められると考えられる.

他の因子が腫瘍の発育に影響を及ぼすことも考慮する必要がある.腫瘍の発育と性の相関についての報告はほとんど行われていないが、今回の検討では扁平上皮癌及び腺癌は女性よりも男性においてより速く発育する傾向がみられた.この点については、成人健康調査対象者がほぼ2:1の割合で女性の方が男性より人数が多い2ということも影響しているかもしれない.しかし、性は少なくとも組織型よりも発育の遅い腫瘍の割合に及ぼす影響は大きくない.

発育の遅い癌の患者は発育の速い病巣をもつ患者よりも一般的に高齢であると報告されているが,¹³今回の検討ではこの点に関しては,はっきりした傾向

in the present study. Squamous cell carcinoma tended to support this hypothesis, but only slightly so.

The assessments made in the present study were based on biennial radiography. Had the examinations been conducted annually or biannually more accurate evaluation of the lesion growth rate could have been made. However, this study showed that an appreciable percentage of lung cancer develops slowly, especially adenocarcinoma. We must be alert for these lesions, even if they do not grow rapidly, or if they seem not to grow at all.

は認められなかった. 扁平上皮癌でわずかにその 傾向が認められたにすぎない.

今回の検討は2年に1回のX線検査に基づいている、X線検査が年に1回若しくは半年に1回行われていたならば、病巣の発育速度はもっと正確に評価することができたであろう。しかし今回の検討によってかなり多くの肺癌、特に腺癌がゆっくり発育することが分かった。したがって胸部X線で見られる病巣が急速に発育しなくても、また全く発育していないように思われても、肺癌の可能性は否定できないので十分警戒を要すると考えられた。

APPENDIX 付録

LUNG CANCER PATIENTS WITH SERIAL BIENNIAL CHEST RADIOGRAPHY. SQUAMOUS CELL CARCINOMA

2年ごとの連続した胸部 X 線検査を受けた肺癌患者: 扁平上皮癌

MF Number Age		Age Sex	Doubling Time (Months)	Radiographs Available	Interval Between First & Last Ra- diograph (Months)	Tumor Diameter		Survival from
	Age					First (cm)	Last (cm)	1 cm (Months)
	75	M	1.3	2	1	2.4	2.8	11
	62	M	2.3	3	2	1.4	1.8	52
	54	M	3.6	2	3	1.8	2.2	17
	64	M	4.0	2	27	2.6	12.5	50
	77	M	5.3	4	43	0.8	4.5	64
	72	M	5.7	4	21	1.8	4.2	55
	79	F	5.7	4	28	2.3	7.0	70
	75	M	6.3	4	48	1.0	6.0	52
	75	F	6.3	5	18	2.4	4.5	45
	59	F	8.7	4	48	1.5	5.2	71
	68	M	14.7	5	72	0.8	3.0	87

LUNG CANCER PATIENTS WITH SERIAL BIENNIAL CHEST RADIOGRAPHY. ADENOCARCINOMA 2年ごとの連続した胸部 X 線検査を受けた肺癌患者: 腺癌

MF Number	Age	Sex	Doubling Time (Months)	Radiographs Available	Interval Between First & Last Ra- diograph (Months)	Tumor Diameter		Survival from
						First (cm)	Last (cm)	1 cm (Months)
1000000	73	M	0.9	2	1	2.1	2.7	15
	62	M	1.7	3	3	1.2	1.8	18
	62	F	2.6	3	6	2.3	3.8	27
	71	F	3.0	3	3	2.4	3.0	21
	65	F	5.3	2	23	0.9	2.2	71
	60	M	5.7	3	23	1.4	3.5	49
	65	F	6.3	3	38	0.8	3.3	36
	59	M	6.3	2	22	1.0	2.3	40
	60	M	7.7	2	22	0.6	1.2	27
	39	M	9.7	5	29	1.2	2.5	43
	56	F	10.0	2	8	2.3	2.7	52
	59	F	11.0	2	24	1.4	2.3	61
	50	M	11.7	2	4	3.4	3.7	109
	71	F	11.7	4	48	1.6	3.2	61
	57	M	12.7	4	38	1.6	3.2	60
	67	M	12.7	3	26	3.3	5.2	113
	80	M	14.0	10	110	1.1	3.8	93
	55	F	14.7	6	37	1.8	3.2	98
	60	F	15.3	3	37	2.3	4.0	109
	57	F	15.7	4	73	0.8	2.5	81
	66	M	17.3	5	77	1.3	3.3	201
	33	F	20.5	9	73	1.6	3.8	185*
	39	F	22.3	4	62	1.4	2.9	128
	60	F	22.7	2	29	2.0	2.4	114
	70	F	23.3	7	49	1.9	3.3	135
	54	M	24.7	3	12	2.5	2.8	151

^{*}Still alive.

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