

DEPARTMENT OF SURGICAL ONCOLOGY

Gynaecologic Oncology Unit

Introduction

Female genital tract cancers are very common in Nepal. The hospital based cancer registry maintained by our hospital reveals that among all cancers, cervical cancer is the commonest cancer to be diagnosed and treated. Ovarian cancer followed by endometrial cancer and cancer of vulva and vagina are other common malignancies seen in Nepalese women. The Gynecologic Oncology Unit at B.P Koirala Memorial Cancer Hospital is committed to providing



comprehensive care for women with malignant as well as pre-malignant gynecological conditions.

Services

OPD and surgical services each were provided three days and three days a week, respectively.

In the year 2010, we had a total of 9059 new 3693 and 5366 follow up patients. Our OPD Patient services include general examination, pelvic examination, and collection of pap smears, visual inspection with acetic acid (VIA), visual inspection with lugol's iodine (VILI), colposcopy, cervical biopsy, cryotherapy and hysteroscopy. Other services are endocervical and endometrial curettage and loop electrosurgical excision procedures (LEEP).

In patient Services

The unit posses nine beds for admission and has three operating days a week. A total of 375 operations were performed in the year 2010. Surgeries performed were simple and radical hysterectomy with or without pelvic lymph-node dissection, staging laparotomy, simple and radical vulvectomy with or without groin node dissections and debulking surgeries. Sometimes, composite resections of bladder and bowel were performed along with uterus in an attempt of optimal debulking for carcinoma ovary with the help of surgeons. Anterior pelvic exenteration, total pelvic exenteration, urinary diversions were also performed for residual or recurrent carcinoma of cervix. We are doing laproscopic surgery ie. Laparoscopic (5) R.H+BLPLND, TLH, LAVH, Cystetomies. The table below is the account of surgical procedures undertaken in 2010.

S.N.	Procedure	Number
1	Cervical Cancer (78)	
	● EUA + Cervical Biopsy	18
	● Extrafascial Hysterectomy	5
	● Radical Hysterectomy + BL Pelvic LN Dissection	45
2	Ovarian Tumour (131)	
	● TAH+BSO+Omentectomy (Primary Staging Laparotomy)	62
	● Interval Debulking laparotomy (Post NACT)	9
	● Fertility Conserving Surgery (Salpingo-ophorectomy)	22
	● TAH + BSO + Omental Biopsy	16
	● TAH + BSO	16
	● Open and close	6
3	Uterine Tumour (Corpus Cancer and Uterine Sarcoma) (25)	
	● TAH + BSO	18
	● TAH + BSO + BL Pelvic LN Dissection	7
4	Benign Tumours of Uterus and adnexa (46)	
	● TAH + BSO	17
	● Adnexal Surgery	18
	● Polypectomy	1
5	Vulva and Vaginal Cancer (19)	
	● EUA + Vulval Biopsy	10
	● Wide Local Excision	5
	● Radical Vulvectomy + BL Groin Dissection	4
6	Gestational Trophoblastic Disease (GTD) (15)	
	● MVA	9
	● Hysterectomy	6
7	Others (Vulvo-vaginal Cysts, wound resuturing) (56)	
	● Wound Resuturing	4
	● Surgery for Vulvo-vaginal Cysts	2
	● Diagnostic D & C	50
8	Laparoscopic (5)	
	● R.H+BLPLND	1
	● TLH+ BSO	2
	● LAVH	1
	● Cystectomy	1
Total		375

Academic Activities

The Unit is actively involved in academic and training activities. MD Residents in Gynaecology from National Academy of Medical Sciences (NAMS), Kathmandu; B.P. Koirala Institute of Health Sciences (BPKIHS), Dharan and College of Medical Sciences (CMS), Bharatpur, Chitwan come for posting in gynaecological oncology. Training programmes on cervical cancer screening for paramedics, nurses and allied health workers are done in the unit. These training programmes are conducted in co-ordination with Department of Cancer Prevention, Control & Research and Department of Pathology. Our team members are regularly attending in the CMEs, National conferences throughout the year. A three day laparoscopic workshop on Gynaecological Oncology was done. Live demonstration of various laparoscopic procedures for Gynaecological tumors were done. We on behalf of the department, thank surgeons from Asan Medical College, Korea (Prof Nam and Dr Nam) and Dr Gyanendra Karki from Biratnagar, Nepal for making this workshop successful. Definitely, we made a great move in regards to minimally access surgery in year 2010.

Future Directions

The gynaecology oncology unit has always felt the importance screening programmes for cancer prevention. It plans to extend the hospital based cervical screening to community level in co-ordination with department of cancer prevention, control and research so that more of pre-invasive and early stage disease can be detected and cured.

The gynaecology oncology unit wishes to upgrade its surgical services by initiating laparoscopic and minimally invasive surgery at BPKMCH.

Human Resources

At present three Nepalese gynecologic oncologists (1 Consultant, 1 Junior consultant and 1 registrar), one Chinese consultant, two medical officers and two OPD helpers are providing the services.

