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EUROPEAN JOURNAL OF GYNAECOLOGICAL ONCOLOGY (ISSN 0392-2936) publishes original peer reviewed works in the fields of female genital cancers and related subjects and also proceedings of gynecologic oncology society meetings all over the world. The Journal is covered by CURRENT CONTENTS, SCISEARCH, RESEARCH ALERT, INDEX MEDICUS, MEDLINE, EMBASE/Excerpta Medica, CURRENT ADVANCES IN CANCER RESEARCH, BIOSIS.
Cervical precancer and cancer, past, present and future
G. De Palo - Milan, ITALY
A history of in situ and invasive carcinomas of the cervix is reported.

Prognostic and therapeutic importance of lymphadenectomy in gynecological cancers
A. Ayhan, H. Çelik, P. Dursun, M. Gultekin, K. Yuce - Ankara, TURKEY
Prognostic and therapeutic importance of lymphadenectomy in gynecological cancers discussed in the light of literature.

Successful vaccine immunotherapy. An exciting novel approach to cancer treatment
G. Daskalakis, N. Thomakos, A. Papapanagiotou, T. Liakakos, R.L. Young, A. Antsaklis - Athens, GREECE
Future prospects will be to increase basic knowledge of immunogenic tumor antigens to vaccine administration, which will make the cancer patient develop an immune response able to induce tumor regression. Clinical trials already under way in patients with malignant diseases may yield more definitive conclusions.

Book Review

Carcinoma in situ and early breast carcinoma. Survey of the Portuguese Senology Society on the diagnostic tools used in Portugal and their evolution between 1985 and 2000
Researched by the Senology Society Portuguese hospitals showed an appreciable improvement in early diagnosis of breast cancer between 1985 and 2000.

Establishment and characterization of two different types of new human endometrial adenocarcinoma cell lines (HEC-251 and HEC-265)
Two types of novel cell lines from endometrial carcinoma which express either p53 or PgR are established.

Clinicopathologic outcomes of laser conization for high-grade cervical dysplasia
L. dos Santos, K. Odunsi, S. Lele - New York, USA
Laser conization is associated with a very low incidence of thermal artifact and postoperative complications, and a relatively low rate of persistent disease.

Pathological characteristics of ovarian cancer occurring after hysterectomy
R. Halperin, E. Mordechai, S. Zehavi, D. Schneider - Tel Aviv, ISRAEL
It seems that besides reducing the risk of further ovarian cancer, hysterectomy also causes a change in the main histological sub-group of ovarian cancer that develops in patients with previous hysterectomy. The greatest protective effect was observed for serous ovarian tumors.

Soybean isoflavones inhibit estrogen-stimulated gene expression in mouse uteri
Z. Lian, K. Niwa, J. Gao, K. Tagami, K. Onczi, H. Mori, T. Tamaya - Gifu-city, JAPAN
Soybean isoflavones inhibit the expression of estrogen-stimulated c-fos, c-jun, IL-1α and TNF-α in mouse uteri.

Clinical review of 55 cases of malignant ovarian germ cell tumors
V. Zanagnolo, E. Sartori, G. Galleri, B. Pasinetti, U. Bianchi - Brescia, ITALY
Primary treatment of malignant germ cell tumors is conservative surgery and the role of adjuvant treatment is cardinal. Most patients retain normal fertility potential.

Modification of ultrasonographically measured endometrial thickness after discontinuation of adjuvant therapy with tamoxifen in postmenopausal breast cancer patients
M. Valenzano Menada, A. Papadia, P. Lorenzi, S. Costantini, G.F. Bertelli, N. Ragni - Cuneo, ITALY
A significant reduction in endometrial thickness after discontinuation of tamoxifen therapy is demonstrated. It can be attributed to cessation of the estrogenic tamoxifen side-effects.

Clinicopathological study of vascular tumors of the breast: a series of ten patients with a long follow-up
A. Kondis-Palitis, J. Psychogios, H. Spanidou-Carvouni, P. Kairi-Vassilatou, K. Kontogianni, V. Smyrniotis - Athens, GREECE
Clinicopathological features of ten cases of vascular tumors of the breast with a long follow-up are described.
First-line intraperitoneal cisplatin-paclitaxel and intravenous ifosfamide in Stage IIIc ovarian epithelial cancer
B. Zylberberg, D. Dormont, P. Madeleinat, E. Darai - Cedex, FRANCE
First-line intraperitoneal chemotherapy with paclitaxel-CDDP is effective in untreated Stage III ovarian cancer patients even with initial unresectable disease.

Role of plasma nitric oxide in complete hydatidiform mole
M. Harma, M. Harma, A. Kocyıgıt, N. Demır - Sanliurfa, TURKEY
This is the first report to suggest a risk association between elevated plasma nitric oxide levels and development of complete hydatidiform mole.

The significance of the degree of myometrial invasion in patients with Stage IB endometrial cancer
O. Gemer, L. Uriev, T. Harkovsky, R. Peled, D. Ben-Dor, F. Barak, S. Segal - Ashkelon, ISRAEL
In Stage IB endometrial cancer, myometrial invasion of more than one-third compared with invasion less than one-third does not affect outcome.

Sentinel node identification and intraoperative lymphatic mapping. First results of a pilot study in patients with endometrial cancer
The identification of sentinel lymph nodes in endometrial cancer is a practical and safe method. In order to improve this technique as a standard procedure for staging of endometrial cancer further studies with a larger number of patients have to be done.

Postoperative radiotherapy in Stage I endometrial adenocarcinoma
V. Kukura, L. Markulin-Grgic, F. Šante, G. Zovko, S. Ciglar, I. Valetić - Zagreb, CROATIA
Postoperative whole pelvic radiation demonstrates good results in patients with high-risk surgical Stage I endometrial adenocarcinoma.

A novel technique with a flexible applicator for MRI-based brachytherapy of cervical cancer
J. Hadjiev, G. Antal, Z. Antalfy, P. Bogner, O. Ėsik, I. Repa - Kaposvár, HUNGARY
Preliminary results with an adjustable applicator technique for magnetic resonance-based, 3-dimensional high-dose rate brachytherapy for cervical cancer, resulted in improved dose distribution.

Human chorionic gonadotropin-beta in endometrium cancer tissue
E. Nowak-Markwitz, A. Jankowska, A. Szcerba, M. Andrusiewicz - Poznań
The expression of hCGβ gene in endometrial cancer tissue was present in all cases and serum-free hCGβ immunoreactivity was a less common feature.

External radiation therapy for endometrial carcinoma: The University Hospital of Ioannina experience
External radiotherapy alone achieved excellent local control in women with endometrial carcinoma with satisfactory overall and disease-free survival.

DNA adducts in squamous cell cervical carcinomas associated with HPV infection
A. Kwaśniewska, A. Goździcka-Józefiak, A. Borzęcki, W. Baranowski - Lublin, POLAND
The aim of this study was qualitative and quantitative evaluation of DNA adducts in squamous cell cervical carcinomas associated with oncogenic HPV infection. The study results suggest that the content of DNA adduct content in squamous cell cervical cancer associated with HPV infection may serve as a molecular marker of oncogenesis in this organ.

Estrogen and progesterone expression of vessel walls with intravascular leiomyomatosis; Discussion of histogenesis
G. Kir, M. Kir, A. Gurbuz, A. Karateke, F. Aker - Istanbul, TURKEY
Estrogen and progesterone expressions of vessel walls with intravascular leiomyomatosis; discussion of histogenesis.

Survival in primary inoperable breast cancer patients
C. Dimitrakakis, A. Keramopoulos - Athens, GREECE
Neoadjuvant chemotherapy followed by surgery offers a survival advantage in primary inoperable breast cancer patients. Metastatic and hormonal receptor status provides additional prognostic information.

Postmenopausal endometrial cancer screening: is there a correlation between transvaginal sonographic measurement of endometrial thickness and body mass index?
M.A. Güven, Ö. Pata, S. Bakaris, A. Kafkaslı, L. Mgoyi - Kahramanmaras, TURKEY
The correlation of body mass index with transvaginal sonographic measurement of endometrial thickness in a cohort of postmenopausal women admitted for endometrial cancer surveillance is reported.

Treatment delay and pathology results in women with low-grade squamous intraepithelial lesions. A preliminary study
G. Iatrakis, G. Kourounis, N. Georgopoulos, J. Karachotzitis - Athens, GREECE
Prolongation of an observation period > 2 years in women diagnosed with CIN 1 is a possible alternative approach.
Results of cisplatin, adriamycin and etoposide chemotherapy in patients with recurrent and metastatic endometrial cancer

T. Bilgin, H. Ozan, H. Filiz Kara - Bursa, TURKEY
A combination treatment of cisplatin, adriamycin and etoposide is highly active in recurrent or metastatic endometrial cancer.

CASE REPORTS

Recurrent extraperitoneal low grade leiomyosarcoma with unusual localization

E.S. Guvendag Guven, S. Guven, S. Esin, A. Usubutun, D. Akata, A. Altintas, A. Ayhan - Ankara, TURKEY
Low-grade soft tissue leiomyosarcoma may rarely occur in the paravaginal space.

Primitive neuroectodermal tumor (PNET) of the uterine isthmus

I.D. Venizelos, M. Zafrakas, K. Dragoumis, P. Tzevelekis, D. Kellartzis, J. Bontis - Thessaloniki, GREECE
A rare case of a primitive neuroectodermal tumor (PNET) of the uterine isthmus is presented.

Endometrial involvement by intra-abdominal diffuse malignant mesothelioma

G. Kir, M. Kir, A. Karateke, F. Özkam - Istanbul, TURKEY
This is the first reported case of intra-abdominal diffuse malignant mesothelioma metastasing to the endometrium.

Microscopic endometrioid carcinoma arising in endosalpingeal endometriosis

A. Karateke, G. Kir, A. Gurbuz, F. Aker - Istanbul, TURKEY
Microscopic endometrioid carcinoma arising in endosalpingeal endometriosis is reported.

Solitary spleen metastasis and amyloidosis in a patient with endometrial cancer

H. Gogas, Th. Ignatiadis, Ch. Markopoulos, S. Karageorgopoulou, D. Floros, G. Vaiopoulos - Athens, GREECE
A case of solitary spleen metastasis with amyloidosis of the spleen in a patient with endometrial cancer is presented.

Well-differentiated papillary mesothelioma complicating endometrial carcinoma: A case report

A case of well-differentiated papillary mesothelioma discovered during staging surgery for endometrial carcinoma in a 50-year-old postmenopausal woman is presented.

Letter to the Editor

Book Review