

European Respiratory Society Annual Congress 2013

Abstract Number: 2070

Publication Number: P2918

Abstract Group: 11.1. Lung Cancer

Keyword 1: Lung cancer / Oncology **Keyword 2:** Treatments **Keyword 3:** Thoracic oncology

Title: The prognostic value of D-dimer in lung carcinoma

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Body: Aim: The study was aimed to investigate the prognostic value of plasma D-dimer concentrations and some other coagulation factors in lung cancer. Methods: Between 2008 and 2009, 60 diagnosed lung cancer patients and 40 healthy individuals as the control group were included in the study. The patients had no history of coagulation system disorders or anticoagulant therapy. Plasma D-dimer concentrations, prothrombin time, activated partial thromboplastin time, international normalized ratio of the patients were obtained. Patient age, lung cancer stage, tumor histology, therapy outcomes and survival durations of the patients were determined. Results: The mean age of the patients was $58,68 \pm 6,39$ ve 13 patient had stage 3A, 23 patient had stage 3B ve 24 patient had stage 4 disease. The median D-dimer level of the patients was 1019 ng/ml, which was significantly higher than that of the control group ($p=0,000$). Therapy response in patients after 2 cycles chemotherapy there was no istatistically difference between D-dimer levels ($p=0,936$). However, D-dimer levels in progresivve disease statistically significant higher than regressive and stable disease after 4 cycles chemotherapy ($p=0,002$). 68,3 % patient were died, 31,7 % patient were alive after three years follow up. There was no difference in D-dimer levels that was at the beginning of the diagnosis and after 2 cycles chemotherapy between dead and alive patient ($p=0,769$); but D- dimer levels in alive patient were statistically low after 4 cycles treatment ($p=0,001$). Conclusion: The results suggest that D –dimer plasma levels that is a cheap, easy and non invaziv method might be useful to predict the clinical outcome, survival and therapy response of the patients with lung cancer.