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Title: Prognostic factors and survival in malignant pleural mesothelioma at a large tertiary referral center in Turkey

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Body: Malignant pleural mesothelioma is a rare tumor but increasing incidance and poor prognosis despite new therapy modalities. In this study we aimed to investigate the effects of various pretreatment clinical and laboratory characteristics on survival of patients with malignant pleural mesothelioma (MPM). During last five years, 125 histological proven MPM cases were evaluated at large tertiary refferal center in eastern part of Turkey. Patients age, gender, performance score, histology, asbestos exposure, smoking history, sympyoms, plasma platelet count, haemoglobin, white blood cell (WBC), plasma LDH level, stages were evaluted in both multivariate and univariate analysis. Univariate analysis showed that patients with extensive stage, N2 nodal invasion and M1 metastasis have a worse prognosis. Multivariate Cox regression analysis showed that sarcomatous histology has found to be indicators of worse prognosis (HR 1, % 95 CI 1.015- 2.19, p= 0.017). As a result; The patients with extensive stage, n2 nodal inavsion and M1 metastasis were found to related with shorter survival. Sarcomatous histology were found as an indipendent worse prognostic factor in MPM.