

Pure invasive lobular carcinoma versus mixed invasive lobular cancer and invasive ductal carcinoma: metastatic patterns differ?

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To The Editor,

I want to congratulate Inoue and colleagues by for their article [1] in which they retrospectively analyzed a cohort of 330 patients with metastatic breast cancer, 303 of invasive ductal carcinoma (IDC), 19 of invasive lobular carcinoma (ILC), and 8 of others. They reported that extremely high rate (68.8%) of peritoneal metastases was observed in long-term follow-up for the metastatic breast cancer patients with ILC. In their study, the authors did not mention whether 19 cases with ILC were pure ILC or mixed types with combination of ILC and IDC histology. We evaluated 358 consecutive patients with breast cancer presenting at Hacettepe University Cancer Institute, Ankara, Turkey. Among them, 17 (4.7%) patients had a diagnosis of pure ILC. Twenty (5.5%) cases with mixed-type histology (ILC + IDC) were identified [2]. Since there have been no data available about the metastatic

patterns in between pure ILC patients and mixed ILC/IDC patients, mixed types might show different metastatic characteristics than pure ILC cases. If there were cases with mixed histology in the current study, these cases are to be clarified in the methods and results.

Compliance with ethical standards

Conflict of interest I have no conflict of interest to declare.

References

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