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Current challenges in gastric cancer surgery: European perspective.

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Current challenges in gastric cancer surgery

Abstract:

Gastric cancer (GC) remains one of the most common causes of cancer death worldwide with expected 5-year survival rates around 25% in Western countries. In order to improve treatment strategy, a most effective staging process should be completed. A novel TNM staging for GC has been proposed recently, along with a separate staging system for GC patients who underwent preoperative therapy (ypStage). Availability of high-quality imaging and access to diagnostic laparoscopy with lavage cytology should be applied while planning the multimodal therapy. In the European setting, GC treatment is based on a combination of surgery and perioperative chemotherapy. However, in selected groups of patients with high risk of locoregional recurrence, adjuvant chemoradiotherapy should be considered. New epidemiological trends of GC in the Western countries include an upward shift in the location of the primary tumour and a relative increase of advanced and diffuse type tumours. These trends dictate modification of surgical techniques towards a more individualized GC treatment approach.

Key words: gastric cancer, oesophago-gastric junction, surgery, oligometastatic disease, multimodality treatment

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