



A Retrospective Analysis of the Oncological Outcomes of T3a Renal Cell Carcinomas which have Undergone Partial Nephrectomy

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Aim:

This single centre, retrospective study aims to determine whether performing a partial nephrectomy is oncologically safe for stage T3a renal cell carcinomas.

Introduction:

Radical Nephrectomy is the gold standard surgical approach for T3a Renal Cell Carcinomas. However, a small but not insignificant number of patients pre-operatively staged cT1/cT2 are treated with a partial nephrectomy but at final pathology are subsequently upstaged to pT3a.

Materials and Method:

Data was collected retrospectively using the Royal Free database. 16 of the 306 partial nephrectomies demonstrated stage T3a at final histology. Primary outcome analysed was Recurrence-Free Survival. Secondary outcome analysed was Renal Function Preservation (post-operative eGFR/ pre-operative eGFR).

Results:

Of the 16 patient, 14 patients presented with localised T3a RCC at presentation with an average follow up of 17.3 months. No evidence of local or metastatic recurrence was found in this series of 14 patients. 2 patients were excluded as they presented with metastatic disease. This study found a respectable Renal Function Preservation. In this series, the eGFR \pm SD (mL/min/1.73m²) was 77.3 \pm 18.8 pre-operatively and 69.7 \pm 19.7 post-operatively, displaying a Renal Function Preservation (post/pre eGFR) of 90.2%.

Conclusion:

This pilot study concluded that a partial nephrectomy is oncologically safe for certain T3a kidney renal cell carcinomas. The

main implications are that: 1) Current practice should shift and start considering a partial nephrectomy in certain selected patients with clinical T3a tumours, especially in patients with imperative reasons for nephron-sparing surgery as long as a negative margin can be achieved. 2) This study seeks to advise that surgeons should not be deterred from carrying out a partial nephrectomy for fear of pathological upstaging.

Abbreviations:

PN: Partial Nephrectomy

RN: Radical Nephrectomy

RCC: Renal Cell Carcinoma

cT3a: clinically staged T3a

pT3a: pathologically staged T3a

RFS: Recurrence-Free Survival

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