Prevalence of Colorectal Cancer in Psychiatric Patients — The Preliminary results of Colorectal Cancer screen

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Abstract

Colorectal cancer contributes over 600,000 deaths and half-million new diagnostic cases each year. Yet, the study of correlation of psychiatric patients and colorectal cancer is rare. And there is lack of prevalence of colorectal cancer in psychiatric patients. The aim of this study was to demonstrate colorectal cancer prevalence in Taiwanese psychiatric patients to provide the reference for psychiatric professionals to improve the physical care for these patients. A ‘Quantitative immunoassay fecal occult blood test’ and a questionnaire of habitual diet and daily health behavior were used to screen colorectal cancer to determine the prevalence in psychiatric populations. 2088 psychiatric patients were recruited to complete this screen. Average age was 57.33 ± 5.47 years. The positive rate of colorectal cancer was 9.9% and 8.1% for male and female respectively. Interestingly, the more psychiatric diagnosis the patients had, the more prevalence of colorectal cancer the patients had, and patients with 3 psychiatric diagnostic items had 1.62 fold risk of colorectal cancer to with 1 diagnosis. This survey showed that psychiatric patients have prevalence of colorectal cancer, and the more items of psychiatric diagnosis, the more risk of colorectal cancer these patients has. These preliminary data of this survey hopefully can be the reference for psychiatric professionals to improve the physical care for these patients.

Introduction

Colorectal cancer is a major contributor to disease morbidity and mortality worldwide and contributes over 600,000 deaths and half-million new diagnostic cases each year. Hence, screening for colorectal cancer is a cost-effective prevention and control strategy and is presently commanding major attention. Numerous studies have demonstrated that there is correlation between healthy eating patterns and colorectal cancer, yet, the study of correlation of psychiatric patients and colorectal cancer is rare. And there is lack of prevalence of colorectal cancer in psychiatric patients. The aim of this study was to demonstrate colorectal cancer prevalence in Taiwanese psychiatric patients to provide the reference for psychiatric professionals to improve the physical care for these patients.

Materials and Methods

A ‘Quantitative immunoassay fecal occult blood test’ and a questionnaire of habitual diet and daily health behavior were used to screen colorectal cancer and related health behaviors to determine the prevalence an its correlations with habitual diet and health behavior in psychiatric patients. Samples of this study were recruited from a psychiatric hospital in southern Taiwan.

Results

2088 psychiatric patients (1011, 48.4% male and 1077, 51.6% female) were invited to complete this screen. Average age was 57.33 ± 5.47 years. The positive rate of colorectal cancer was 9.9% and 8.1% for male and female respectively. In the number of diagnostic items aspect, the more psychiatric diagnostic items the patients had, the more positive rate of colorectal cancer the patients had (7.9%, 9.6%, and 12.1% for the patients had 1, 2, and 3 psychiatric diagnosis, respectively, p = 0.045), and patients with 3 psychiatric diagnostic items had 1.62 fold risk of colorectal cancer to with 1 diagnostic item (p = 0.02).

Conclusion

This survey showed that psychiatric patients have higher prevalence of colorectal cancer, and the more items of psychiatric diagnosis, the more risk of colorectal cancer these patients have. These preliminary data of this survey hopefully can be the reference for psychiatric professionals to improve the physical care for these patients.