

Chapter 7

THE RISK FACTORS, CLASSIFICATION AND HISTOPATHOLOGICAL FEATURES OF ENDOMETRIAL CARCINOMAS

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Introduction

Endometrial cancer is the most common gynecologic malignancy among women. It is the fourth most common tumor of women in the world. The incidence and the death rates have been increasing in the recent years and predicted to increase more in the following decades (Sud & et al, 2018). The tumors of the endometrium are classified in 6 groups as follows; Epithelial, Mesenchymal, mixed epithelial and mesenchymal, Miscellaneous, Lymphoid and myeloid tumors and the last group secondary tumors (Kurman& et al, 2014). Here Epithelial tumors of the endometrium will be introduced. The risk factors, classification and histopathological features of them will be described in details.

Endometrial Carcinomas

The epithelial tumors of the endometrium are the Endometrial Carcinomas. The risk of developing Endometrial carcinoma in a woman in her lifetime is 2.6%. The average age is 60 years old. It is the most common tumor of postmenopausal period. 90% of the endometrial carcinoma cases are seen in postmenopausal period. Only 1% of them can be seen in woman younger than 40 years old age (Aker, 2017). The most frequent symptom of it is abnormal uterin bleeding. Especially in the postmenopausal period as the uterine bleeding is a very alarming symptom, the disease is often detected at an early stage causing high five-year survival rates (Jong & et al, 2009). Endometrial carcinoma has 9 main histological subgroups according to the World Health Organization (WHO) classification as in Table 1 (Kurman & et al, 2014).

Two different types of endometrial carcinomas had been defined based on the behaviour, molecular genetic and epidemiological characteristics. Type 1 carcinomas are endometrioid and mucinous carcinomas. Type 2 carcinomas are serous and clear cell carcinomas (Bokhman, 1983) (Setiawan & et al, 2013)

Type 1 tumors constitute about 80-90% of all endometrial carcinomas (Endometrioid carcinoma; about 70-80%, mucinous carcinoma; 1-9%). Type 1 tumors are

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Histopatology of Dedifferentiated Carcinoma

This tumor is composed of Undifferentiated carcinoma and a second component of grade 1 or 2 endometrioid carcinomas. In these tumors differentiated tumors usually lines the endometrial cavity while the undifferentiated component grows beneath it. Tumor cells in undifferentiated component only show EMA, CK18 and vimentin positivity. The prognosis of the undifferentiated and dedifferentiated carcinomas are very poor, with very aggressive behaviour and high risk of recurrences (Mutter, Matias-Guiu & Lax, 2009).

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