Multifactor Analysis of Malposition of Peripherally Inserted Central Catheters in Patients With Cancer

Xuying Li, RN, MSN, Honghong Wang, RN, PhD, Yongyi Chen, RN, PhD, and Zhong Yuan, RN, BSN

Background: Peripherally inserted central catheters (PICCs) are used widely in patients with cancer, but catheter malposition often occurs.

Objectives: This study aimed to provide a reference for clinically safe catheterization through multifactor analysis of malposition of PICCs in patients with cancer.

Methods: The occurrence of PICC malposition in patients with cancer was retrospectively reviewed, and a multivariate logistic regression analysis was performed.

Findings: Of 2,084 patients with PICCs, 170 cases (8%) of malposition occurred. The multivariate logistic regression analysis revealed that the risk of adverse events from malposition was higher in the right upper limb than in the left upper limb. The highest risk from malposition was cephalic vein puncture, followed by brachial vein puncture. The risk in the lower part of the elbow joint was higher than that in the upper part of the elbow joint. During PICC insertion, the left upper limb and upper part of the elbow joint should be selected for the puncture, and the basilic vein should be selected as the first-choice vein to reduce the incidence of malposition and adverse events.

Xuying Li, RN, MSN, is a PhD student in the Xiangya School of Nursing at Central South University in Changsha, China, and a vice director in the Department of Nursing at the Affiliated Cancer Hospital of Xiangya School of Medicine at Central South University/Hunan Cancer Hospital in Changsha; Honghong Wang, RN, PhD, is a vice dean in the Xiangya School of Nursing at Central South University; Yongyi Chen, RN, PhD, is a vice president in the Department of Nursing at the Affiliated Cancer Hospital of Xiangya School of Medicine at Central South University/Hunan Cancer Hospital; and Zhong Yuan, RN, BSN, is a head nurse in the Department of Vascular Access Center at the Affiliated Cancer Hospital of Xiangya School of Medicine at Central South University/Hunan Cancer Hospital. The authors take full responsibility for the content of the article. This study was supported, in part, by the fund of the Health Department of Hunan Province (B2012-090) and the Scientific Research Platform Project of Hunan Cancer Hospital. The content of this article has been reviewed by independent peer reviewers to ensure that it is balanced, objective, and free from commercial bias. No financial relationships have been disclosed by the independent peer reviewers or editorial staff. Wang can be reached at honghongwangcn@126.com, with copy to editor at CJONEditor@ons.org. (Submitted May 2014. Revision submitted September 2014. Accepted for publication October 14, 2014.)

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