Study of 1132 Patients Who Received Intervention From National Cancer Center Hospital's Occupational Therapy

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Introduction: National Cancer Center Hospital is a 600-bed hospital specialized in cancer treatment, which opened in 1961 and is located in Tokyo, Japan. Occupational Therapy Section is a relatively new addition to the hospital, and was established in November 2010. It is currently affiliated to a medical group known as the Dept. of Musculoskeletal Oncology and Rehabilitation where diagnosis and treatment are carried out by one Board-certificated Physiatris, four Physical Therapists, one Occupational Therapist, and one Speech Therapist. Methods: In 1132 patients who underwent occupational therapy from 2011 to 2015, the therapeutic impact was investigated retrospectively according to gender, age, the clinical department which requested the intervention, the duration of the occupational therapy intervention, and the outcome. The patients were divided into two groups: a hospital discharge group and a hospital transfer group; and statistical analyses were carried out to examine the association of the outcome with the patients' age and the duration of the occupational therapy intervention. Results: The number of patients who underwent occupational therapy was 1132 (681 males and 451 females), with a median age of 64 years (6-97 years). The requests came mostly from the following departments: Dept. of Neurosurgery and Neuro-Oncology: 739 cases (65%), Dept. of Musculoskeletal Oncology and Rehabilitation: 146 cases (13%), and Dept. of Hematology: 39 cases (3%). The main outcomes consisted of discharge from hospital in 766 cases (68%), transfer to other hospitals in 152 cases (13%), discharged after death in 51 cases (5%), termination of occupational therapy after amelioration of the patients' condition in 61 cases (5%), termination of occupational therapy after aggravation of the patients' condition in 27 cases (2%), shifting to outpatient care in 23 cases (2%), and other outcomes in 53 cases (5%). Comparison between the hospital discharge group and the hospital transfer group showed that their ages were 60.5 years / 67.1 years \textit{(p<.001)}, respectively, and that the duration of occupational therapy was 19.8 days / 40.1 days \textit{(p<.001)}. Hence, there were significant differences. Conclusion: In our hospital, nearly all patients who received surgical treatment for brain tumors or bone and soft tissue tumors were subjected to occupational therapy interventions. In all other departments, requests were based on the attending physicians' decisions regarding each patient's need for intervention. In our hospital's Occupational Therapy Section, interventions have been carried out mainly in patients with brain tumors or bone and soft tissue tumors. While most were discharged, 13% were transferred to other hospitals. Factors contributing to this included the patients' age and the duration of the occupational therapy period.