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Summary

SALVAGE ENDOSCOPIC THERAPY FOR CT1N0M0 LOCAL FAILURE AFTER CHEMORADIOTHERAPY FOR ESOPHAGEAL SQUAMOUS CELL CARCINOMA: MULTICENTER RETROSPECTIVE STUDY

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Multicenter retrospective study of 168 patients found that salvage endoscopic therapy (endoscopic resection or photodynamic therapy) for cT1N0M0 local failure after chemoradiotherapy or radiotherapy for esophageal squamous cell carcinoma achieved three-year overall survival of 79% and esophagectomy-free survival of 76%.

KEY POINTS

- Among 168 patients treated with salvage endoscopic resection (86 patients) or photodynamic therapy (82 patients) between 2012 and 2021, the R0 resection rate was 73% for endoscopic resection and local complete response rate was 62% for photodynamic therapy.
- At median follow-up of 33.5 months, three-year overall survival was 79%, disease-specific survival was 88%, local recurrence-free survival was 54%, and esophagectomy-free survival was 76%.
- Multivariate analysis identified age 75 years or older and residual lesion immediately after chemoradiotherapy as independent risk factors for overall survival, while clinical tumor depth was not a significant risk factor.
- Of 53 patients with local failure after initial salvage therapy, 46 underwent re-salvage treatment and 24 remain alive without recurrence, though one patient died from esophageal-aortic fistula after photodynamic therapy.
- This material is relevant for gastroenterologists and oncologists managing patients with early-stage local failure after definitive chemoradiotherapy for esophageal squamous cell carcinoma.

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