Terminal care in patients with multiple systemic atrophy

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In order to investigate the palliative care in end stage of MSA (Multiple Systemic Atrophy), we investigated the details of medical care and rehabilitation in patients with MSA who admitted in our hospital. 74 patients with MSA (MSA-P:45 patients, MSA-C:29 patients) who died in our hospital from 2005-2014 were analyzed as to the details of therapy especially in the end stage. These patients who admitted in our hospital had been already noticed diagnosis and prognosis. As the results, among 74 patients who received the terminal care and died in our hospital, non-invasive mechanical ventilation had been already used in 3 patients before admission to our hospital. Nutritional deficiency had also relieved by percutaneous endoscopic gastrostomy in 12 patients. They also decided not to use the tracheotomy ventilation. As to the therapy after admission to our hospital, rehabilitation was done in all patients. In the end stage of MSA with respiration failure, 4 patients were done tracheotomy with informed concept. 7 patients used oxygen therapy. Rehabilitation had been done in all patients until the end stage of MSA. Rehabilitation in the end stage was mainly for the relaxation of pain, and continued from the day of admission to our hospital until the 3-7 days before the death in 46 patients. Details of rehabilitation in the end stage were the positioning for prevention of bedsores, relaxation of muscles by stimulating the tactile sense and training of excursion of joints without using apparatus for pain elicited by movement disorder.