

Osimertinib is ~~remarkably~~**significantly** effective in ~~treating~~ **synchronous** ~~the treatment of simultaneous~~ multiple primary lung cancer with ground-glass nodules and solid nodules: A case report

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**Abstract:** ~~With the Following the~~ changes in the disease spectrum of lung cancer spectrum and the wide range of application of spiral ~~computed tomography~~CT, the detection rate of ~~simultaneous~~**synchronous** multiple primary lung cancer ~~(sMPLC)~~ ~~is~~~~has~~ increased ~~ing;~~ ~~but~~ however, many issues related to its ~~the~~ diagnosis and treatment remain unresolved ~~are still faced with many problems.~~ At pPresently, sMPLC is mainly treated by surgery, and ~~the use of~~ targeted therapy is rare. ~~Here.~~ ~~W~~we report ~~the case of~~ a 70-year-old man with sMPLC who underwent surgical resection of the main lesion ~~of~~ sMPLC in the left lower lung lobe. Genetic testing revealed ~~EGFR-a~~ G719A mutation in the EGFR ~~gene~~protein. Following treatment with osimertinib, ~~The~~~~the~~ ground-glass nodules ~~showed~~ ~~had~~ complete remission and the solid nodules ~~had~~ ~~showed~~ partial remission ~~after treatment with Osimertinib~~ in the ~~right~~ residual lesion ~~in the right lung~~. This case report showed ~~s~~ that osimertinib, an epidermal growth factor receptor-tyrosine kinase inhibitor ~~EGFR-TKI~~, has a high ~~has a significant advantage~~ efficacy for treating in the treatment of ~~sMPLC~~ multiple primary lung cancer and ~~should be~~ ~~deserves~~ further study ~~ied for its potential in treating sMPLC~~.

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**Key-~~W~~ords:** Simultaneous Multiple Primary Lung Cancer, ~~;~~ Osimertinib, ~~;~~ Targeted ~~t~~Therapy

## Introduction

Osimertinib, ~~an epidermal growth factor receptor-tyrosine kinase inhibitor (EGFR-TKI)~~, is the current ~~recommended~~ standard of care for the first-line treatment ~~of~~ ~~for~~ advanced ~~EGFR~~epidermal growth factor receptor ~~positive~~ ~~mutated~~ non-small cell lung cancer (EGFR+ NSCLC)<sup>1</sup>, and ~~it is also~~ widely ~~used~~ ~~accepted for~~ ~~as~~ a postoperative ~~adjunctive~~ ~~vant~~ therapy ~~for~~ in stage IB through IIIA EGFR ~~mutation~~ ~~+~~ ~~positive~~ NSCLC

stages IB-III<sup>2,3</sup>); however, but the efficacy of osimertinib for treating in the treatment of synchronous multiple primary lung cancer (sMPLC) is not-unclear. sMPLC involves refers to the simultaneous occurrence of two or more primary lung malignancies in the same patient at the same time; each lesion of sMPLC has independent genetic abnormalities changes, and most lesions show ground-glass opacities (GGOs) changes. 4. AsFollowing the changes in the of disease spectrum of lung cancer and advances in the development of imaging technology, the number of patients diagnosed to have with sMPLC has is-increaseding. However, it remains a critical challenge to the appropriately diagnose is and treatment of sMPLC can be challenging, particularly because of the controversial especially the treatment strategy remains controversial<sup>5</sup>. sSurgical resection is the primary treatment option-of priority, supported assisted-by radiofrequency ablation and stereotactic body radiation therapy (SBRT). Targeted therapy is-has been rarely reported, and the effects of this therapeutic approach are is unclear. Here, we report the case of a 70-year-old man with sMPLC who underwent surgical resection of the main lesion and was treated with osimertinib.

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## Case Report

A 70-year-old man with no history of smoking visited came to our hospital for a physical examination on June 21, 2021. His chest eEnhanced computed tomography (CT) of his chest showed multiple lung lesions (lesion 1 was located in the left lower lung lobe, lesion 2 was located in the right middle lung lobe, and lesion 3 was located in the right lower lung lobe (Figure 1)). The patient requested -further observation and follow-up. The-A chest CT was-scanned conducted again on November 06, 2021, revealed an increase in the size of some pulmonary nodules-were larger than before. and he-The patient then opted for decided to undergo surgical treatment. His medical history included hypertension, diabetes, bronchial asthma, and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. The Llung function test showed severe obstructive ventilatory ion dysfunction (forced expiratory volume in 1\_s\_(FEV<sub>1</sub>), was-1.01; forced vital capacity (FVC), 1.77; FEV<sub>1</sub>:FVC, was-42.25%). According to the results of Ppreoperative evaluation, showed that the mass in the left lower lung, the ground-glass nodules in the

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right upper lung, and the solid nodules in the right lower lung ~~indicated were all considered as S~~MPLC. Based on the patient's medical condition, we performed a ~~thoracotomy~~ cuneiform resection of the lesion in the left lower lung through thoracoscopy. Histological examinations confirmed that the mass was ~~showed~~ invasive adenocarcinoma ~~(Figure 2)~~. Genetic testing gene detection revealed a point mutation of EGFR-G719A, ~~in the EGFR gene~~ protein. Figure 3 shows ~~the~~ the visualized site map of gene mutations ~~is shown in figure 3~~.

Figure 4 shows ~~The the~~ CT image examination of the patient at one ~~1~~ month after surgery ~~was shown (Figure 4)~~. The patient was treated with ~~started~~ oral osimertinib (80 mg QD) ~~from treatment on~~ November 23, 2021. A reexamination with A a CT scan reexamination on March 10, 2022, showed no recurrence of the lesion in that ~~the~~ left lower lung lobe ~~was no recurrence,~~ and a significant reduction in the size of ground-glass nodules in the right middle lung lobe ~~ground glass nodule and the right lower solid nodules in the right lower lung lobe~~ were significantly reduced, ~~and the~~ The treatment efficacy was evaluated as a partial response ~~(Figure 5)~~. Based on the treatment outcome ~~result~~, the patient continued to take osimertinib. A chest CT scan conducted again reexamination on September 08, 2022, showed that the lesion in the right middle lung lobe ~~was well controlled~~ showed no further progression, ~~the treatment with an~~ efficacy was evaluated as complete remission ~~response for this lesion and partial remission for~~ the lesion in the right lower lung lobe ~~evaluated as partial response~~ (Figure 5). The report was closed on ~~ends on~~ September 08, 2022. Subsequently, we recommended that the patients to ~~continue~~ targeted therapy and visit return to ~~the~~ hospital for review every 4 months. If ~~the~~ lesion 3 is in ~~shows~~ remission or has no progression, we will it is recommended the patient ~~to continue~~ targeted therapy; if the disease progresses further, SBRT ~~stereotactic radiotherapy~~ or radiofrequency ablation could be considered for treatment ~~can be taken~~.

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## Discussion

Multiple primary lung cancer ~~(MPLC)~~ can be classified ~~divided~~ into

~~synchronous multiple primary lung cancer (sMPLC)~~ and ~~M~~metachronous multiple primary lung cancer (~~mMPLC~~) according to the time of onset. ~~Previous S~~studies<sup>6-8</sup> have ~~shown~~ found that ~~the detection rate of sMPLC~~synchronous multiple primary lung cancer accounts for 2-20% of ~~all~~ lung cancer ~~cases~~. ~~The main manifestations of sMPLC on a CT scan are GGOs~~ground glass shadows, ~~with some are~~solid nodules, and adenocarcinoma is more commonly ~~detected in the pathological examination~~. ~~In the past, In the past, the~~The diagnosis of MPLC was mainly based on the ~~guidelines~~ first proposed ~~dal by of~~Martini<sup>9</sup> in 1975 and ~~later by the American College of Chest Physicians~~ACPP<sup>10</sup> in 2014. ~~MPLC is diagnosed~~ Only when each lesion originates ~~d~~ from carcinoma *in situ* ~~can the diagnosis of multi primary lung cancer be made~~. Although surgical treatment ~~is currently has become~~ the main treatment ~~method for mode of~~MPLC<sup>10,11</sup>, many patients cannot accept or tolerate ~~more surgical interventions times after undergoing the second and third stage of surgeries;~~ ~~so hence, there is it is~~ an urgent ~~requirement to develop seek~~ non-surgical treatment ~~approaches~~. ~~At p~~Presently, ~~SBRT~~stereotactic radiotherapy and ablative therapy ~~have become an are~~ important ~~treatment options~~ ~~choice~~ for patients with inoperable early-stage lung cancer; and have been increasingly ~~used for treating sMPLC~~applied in the field of ~~synchronous multiple primary lung cancer~~. Huang<sup>12</sup> and Qu<sup>13</sup> reported that the success rate of microwave ablation ~~for~~ ~~synchronousing~~ multiple GGOs was 100%, and no ~~severe~~ ~~serious~~ complications were observed. ~~Previous S~~studies have shown ~~favorable survival outcomes, adequate local control, and fewer adverse events~~ in MPLC patients treated with SBRT. However, ~~in some patients;~~ ~~show more than 10 or 20 multiple~~ nodules in ~~both the double lungs are more than ten or twenty;~~ Dong<sup>14</sup> reported a patient with 28 ground-glass nodules in ~~both~~ ~~bilateral~~ lungs. These patients are not suitable for ~~treatment with~~ ablation or SBRT ~~treatment;~~ ~~so hence, clinicians are actively searching for it has become our long-cherished wish to seek~~ effective treatment ~~approaches, even including~~ non-invasive treatments.

~~Following~~ ~~With~~ the development of ~~next-generation sequencing (NGS)~~ ~~NGS~~technology, molecular diagnosis ~~has played s~~ an important role in ~~the detection of~~ sMPLC. Eunhyang Park conducted second-generation sequencing on 16 patients and

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~~found showed~~ that ~~multiple~~-synchronous ~~multiple~~ lesions in the same patient showed different ~~mutation~~ spectra, ~~sometimes~~ ~~with~~in the same mutant gene<sup>15</sup>. ~~The study of~~ Motohiro Izumi's ~~study~~ ~~involving~~ ~~of~~ 34 ~~patients~~ ~~with~~ S<sub>2</sub>MPLC showed that ~~c~~Concomitant EGFR or KRAS mutations in MPLCs were significantly more frequent than ~~the~~ expected ~~probability~~ ~~by~~ ~~chance~~<sup>16</sup>. The ADAURA study<sup>17</sup> showed that ~~d~~Disease-free survival (DFS) was significantly improved ~~with~~ ~~by~~ ~~adjunctive~~ ~~vant~~ ~~treatment~~ ~~with~~ osimertinib in patients with EGFR L858R and EGFR 19del mutations in ~~NSCLC~~ stages ~~IB-III~~A. However, ~~the~~ DFS benefit ~~was not observed in~~ ~~of~~ patients with other rare sensitive EGFR mutations ~~was not reported~~. In addition to the common EGFR L858R and ~~EGFR~~ ~~exon~~ 19del mutations, there are ~~also~~ some rare but ~~still~~ sensitive mutation types, such as EGFR G719X, L861Q, ~~and~~ S768I, ~~etc~~. ~~Recent studies have shown that~~ ~~specific EGFR-targeted therapy drugs can provide progression-free survival (PFS) and overall survival benefits to~~ ~~for~~ NSCLC patients with these rare mutations, ~~Specific EGFR-targeted therapy drugs can bring PFS and OS benefits to patients~~<sup>18,19</sup>. ~~In this our~~ ~~present~~ case, ~~NGS was performed for a tissue sample from~~ the patient's left lower lung ~~tissue was detected by NGS,~~ and ~~found to carry~~ a rare mutation ~~of~~ EGFR G719A ~~was detected~~. According to ~~previous~~ studies, the ~~mutation~~-probability of EGFR G719A ~~mutation~~ in NSCLC patients is ~~approximately~~ ~~about~~ 1-3%<sup>20,21</sup>. ~~TkKI~~is such as afatinib, daclatinib, and osimertinib ~~have shown~~ a good binding activity to ~~EGFR with a~~ G719A mutation<sup>22</sup>. In a phase II study, 19 patients with advanced NSCLC harboring EGFR G719X mutation were treated with osimertinib; ~~with the patients showed~~ a median PFS of 8.2 months and ~~an overall response rate~~ ~~ORR~~ of 53%<sup>19</sup>. In ~~our present~~ ~~this~~ case, the initial goal of osimertinib ~~treatment~~ was to provide postoperative ~~adjunctive~~ ~~vant~~ therapy for the ~~p~~Palliatively resected lesion ~~carrying the with~~ G719A mutation. Unexpectedly, although the type of mutation in the residual lesions of the patient was ~~un~~not clear, the residual ground-~~glass~~ nodules and solid nodules responded to osimertinib ~~treatment~~, ~~which~~ ~~This might~~ ~~may~~ be because of the presence of the ~~due to~~ ~~the same~~ ~~mutated~~ ~~main driver~~ gene ~~between in both primary and residual~~ ~~the~~ lesions; ~~however,~~ ~~but~~ further ~~investigations are required~~ ~~testing is needed~~ to confirm ~~this hypothesis~~.

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Cheng<sup>23</sup> reported surgical resection of the main lesion of sSMPLC, and treatment of residual ground-glass nodules were treated with first-generation EGFR-TKI; remission was achieved for and some lesions achieved remission. Yu<sup>24</sup> reported the use of sampling first-generation EGFR-TKI to treat multiple ground-glass nodules, and surgical resection of insensitive lesions. Haratake<sup>25</sup> reported a case of mMPLC in which a new lesion developed 8 months after surgery, and the disease was controlled stabilized after treatment with a second-generation EGFR-TKI. Dong<sup>14</sup> reported another case in which osimertinib was effective in treating the treatment of contralateral multiple ground-glass nodules after segmental resection of primary lung adenocarcinoma with EGFR\_T790M\_mutationed lung adenocarcinoma. These reports suggest that targeted therapy could be used as an approach may be a way to treat sSMPLC. However, the research of on the use of targeted therapy for treating sMPLC is still in the stage of case reports. A considerable amount of and a large number of data is are required are needed to confirm its the safety and effectiveness of targeted therapy in the future. Moreover, and further research is required to address several other issues such as here are many problems that need further research, such as the indication of targeted therapy, the best time of treatment, the duration of medication, the recurrence after drug withdrawal, and the difference in the therapeutic efficacy effect of different targeted drugs.

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