

## **Discussion**

According to Iraqi cancer registry thymoma is the most frequent mediastinal tumor, it represents (23.5%) of all mediastinal tumors followed by lymphoma (17.6%) and mesothelioma (15.6%), it represents (0.09%) of all tumors<sup>(3)</sup>.

The mean age at time of presentation was (39) years approaching that of Iraqi cancer registry<sup>(3)</sup>. A significant correlation was seen between the gender and various histopathological subtypes of thymoma were male patients seen frequently with B2,B3 subtypes (27.5%,17.6% respectively) while female patients seen in B1,A subtypes (11.8% each) similar results were reported<sup>(11)</sup>. Significant correlation was found between gender and Masaoka's staging system and TNM staging system were male patients found in advanced stages while female patients were found in early stages of both staging systems, this again was supported in other studies<sup>(11)</sup>. The only paraneoplastic syndrome in this study was Myasthenia gravis seen in (54.9%) of thymoma patients, this value was within the range of other studies<sup>(12)</sup>. The mean age of Myasthenic thymomatous patients at time of presentation was 36 years (younger than the non- myasthenic thymomatous patients) this was agreed by Kazuo.etal 2003<sup>(13)</sup>. Male: female ratio 1.5:1 are in agreement with other results<sup>(14)</sup>. The most frequent histopathological subtypes associated with Myasthenia gravis was the B2, B3 subtypes this was agreed by Pan. et al 2001<sup>(15)</sup>, Okumora. etal 2001<sup>(6)</sup> of the fifty-one patients only<sup>(11)</sup> patients (21.5%) were asymptomatic this was near the results of Riosa. etal 2001<sup>(16)</sup>. the rest of the patients (68.5%) were symptomatic and had different constitutional, locally (tumor related) signs and symptoms or paraneoplastic syndrome this was inconsistent with

Moran et al 2001<sup>(17)</sup> WHO histopathological subtypes correlated with Masaoka's staging system significantly this was agreed by Okumora. etal 2001<sup>(6)</sup>.

## **Conclusion**

MG was the only paraneoplastic syndrome diagnosed in this study. A significant correlation was found between WHO classification system & Masaoka's & TNM staging system, and with the sex of the patients.

## **References**

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