

## Drug information

of patients free of recurrence compared to 48% who received IM for only one year, with a 18% relative risk reduction. This result will determine the new standard of 3 years of adjuvant IM treatment in GIST patients at high risk of recurrence.

**Purpose** To analyse the budget impact on Piedmont Region, over 3 years, after the approval by the Italian National Regulatory Agency of 3 years' adjuvant treatment in high-risk GIST.

**Materials and Methods** The analysis was performed considering the estimated incidence of 60 new cases of GIST in Piedmont: 28 patients are at very low/low risk of relapse and don't need IM; 8 patients are at intermediate risk of recurrence and should receive IM only for 1 year; 12 patients are at very high/high risk and are treated with adjuvant IM for 3 years; 12 patients are metastatic at diagnosis and require lifelong treatment (5–13 years). The price of IM considered in this study was fixed (6–2011) in the regional competition in Piedmont (at 16.7305€/100 mg capsule).

**Results** The annual expenditure for 12 very high/high risk patients is 293,118.6€ which adds up to a total of 879,355.08€ in 3 years. Given the stability of GIST incidence (5 cases/1,000,000 people) and 30% drop off from treatment for intolerance as reported in the SSG/AIO study, the result of our study was: in the first year 12 patients were treated at a total cost of 293,118.36€. The second year for 20 patients (8 from the first year + 12 new) the expenditure was 488,530.6€ (+66.66%). The third year there were 27 patients (7 from the first year, 8 from the second year, 12 new) and a total amount of 659,516.31€ (+35% compared to the second year). The total expenditure on very high/high risk patients at the end of 3 years of observational study was 1,441,165.27€ and the overall incremental cost was +125%.

**Conclusions** The cost of health interventions in rare tumours should be carefully planned with a specific cancer and pharmacological registry. The availability of comprehensive databases or regional registries of these treatments would allow a more accurate analysis that takes into account both the cost of medicines and ambulatory treatment and follow-up cost. Even though data on current costs are alarming it is important to consider that in 2014 IM will lose the Novartis patent and costs will drop about 30–40%.

No conflict of interest.

### DOI-019 CISPLATIN DESENSITISATION PROTOCOL

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<sup>1</sup>C Sangrador-Pelluz, <sup>2</sup>M Martínez-García, <sup>1</sup>MD Pérez-Serrano-Lainosa, <sup>1</sup>R Olivares-Pallerols, <sup>1</sup>JP Navarro-Ferrando, <sup>1</sup>E Soler-Company. <sup>1</sup>Hospital Arnau de Vilanova, Pharmacy, Valencia, Spain; <sup>2</sup>Hospital Arnau de Vilanova, Allergy, Valencia, Spain

**Background** Hypersensitivity reactions are adverse events that represent a challenge, because in some cases there isn't an alternative treatment. Consequently, the only option is to desensitise the patient.

**Purpose** To describe a cisplatin desensitisation protocol (CDP) in a patient with a previous anaphylactic reaction.

**Materials and Methods** Male diagnosed with lung cancer, who started chemotherapy with cisplatin 75 mg/m<sup>2</sup> and oral vinorelbine 60 mg/m<sup>2</sup>. During the cisplatin infusion, he suffered an anaphylactic reaction, so it was decided to perform skin tests, to confirm the possible association with the cytostatic.

Due to the cross-reactivity between platinum salts, these tests were performed with all similar substances. Stock solutions used: cisplatin 1 mg/ml, carboplatin 5 mg/ml and oxaliplatin 10 mg/ml. Dilutions prepared for intradermal administration: 1/10000, 1/1000, 1/100 and 1/10.

**Results** Cisplatin skin tests were positive for the stock solution and negative for the other dilutions. All the other platinum salts

were negative, so we developed a protocol for administering the next cycle of cisplatin.

The CDP consisted of 12 stages in which to administer the total dose (140 mg). Three solutions (250 ml) were prepared with dilutions 1/100, 1/10 and 1/1. The 1/100 solution (0.0056 mg/ml) was administered at 9.25 ml in 1 hour in 4 stages (administration rate increments every 15 minutes: 2 ml/h, 5 ml/h, 10 ml/h and 20 ml/h). The 1/10 solution (0.056 mg/ml) was administered at 18.75 ml in 1 hour in 4 steps (starting with 5 ml/h and doubling the rate every 15 minutes until 40 ml/h). Solution 1/1 (0.56 mg/ml) was administered completely, starting with 10 ml/h and increasing every 15 min to 20, 40 and 80 ml/h, being the final perfusion rate. It was performed under medical supervision, taking in total 5 hours and 37 minutes. The patient didn't have any complications.

**Conclusions** In this patient, the CDP developed enabled the chemotherapy to be given safely. All this was possible by the interdisciplinary collaboration of allergy, oncology and pharmacy services.

No conflict of interest.

### DOI-020 COST AND EFFECTIVENESS OF TARGETED TREATMENT WITH CETUXIMAB OR BEVACIZUMAB AS MAINTENANCE TREATMENT IN PATIENTS WITH COLORECTAL CANCER

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<sup>1</sup>G Rizza, <sup>2</sup>G Bellavia, <sup>2</sup>C Scorsone, <sup>1</sup>V Cascone. <sup>1</sup>ASP of Ragusa, Hospital Pharmacy AG 1 District, Ragusa, Italy; <sup>2</sup>ASP of Agrigento, Hospital Pharmacy AG 2 District, Agrigento, Italy

**Background** The addition of targeted treatment to chemotherapy and first and second line treatment significantly improves patient outcomes, raising the response rate with an increase of resectability in patients with metastasis and improving the long-term survival, as demonstrated by several randomised clinical trials.

**Purpose** To evaluate the cost and effectiveness of treatment with bevacizumab or cetuximab in patients with metastatic colorectal cancer, in particular in maintenance treatment.

**Materials and Methods** A retrospective analysis was conducted in two Sicilian cancer centres, in patients treated between 01/01/2008 and 30/06/2012, to assess the median time to progression (TTP) and the corresponding cost of maintenance treatment with bevacizumab and cetuximab. Results were compared using the log-rank test.

**Results** Of 167 patients treated with bevacizumab plus chemotherapy, 41 (24.5%) responded and continued with maintenance treatment: 36 patients on first-line treatment (TTP 412.5 days) and 5 patients on second-line treatment (TTP 314.7 days). Of 71 patients treated with cetuximab plus chemotherapy, 15 (21.1%) responded and continued with maintenance treatment: 9 patients on first-line treatment (TTP 271.2 days), 6 patients on second-line treatment (TTP 366.5 days). Maintenance treatment showed an increase in TTP of 258.2 and 159.3 days on first-line treatment, 188.1 and 243 days on second-line treatment for bevacizumab and cetuximab, respectively. The additional cost of maintenance treatment with bevacizumab and cetuximab, for a standard 70 kg, 1.7 m<sup>2</sup> patient is €84/day and €118/day for each day of progression-free survival, respectively.

**Conclusions** In patients responding to maintenance treatment, bevacizumab is more advantageous as TTP in first-line treatment gains about 100 days vs. cetuximab, while cetuximab is more advantageous as second-line treatment, with a gain of about 55 days in TTP vs. bevacizumab. From the economic analysis the most advantageous is bevacizumab, costing €34/day less than cetuximab. A study is in progress to consider the use of targeted treatment with different chemotherapy regimens.

No conflict of interest.



## DGI-020 Cost and Effectiveness of Targeted Treatment with Cetuximab or Bevacizumab as Maintenance Treatment in Patients with Colorectal Cancer

G Rizza, G Bellavia, C Scorsone and V Cascone

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