results for each patient, besides demographic data. They answered a quality of life questionnaire (SF-36) at the beginning of treatment and two months before starting.

**Results** During this period, 7 patients began treatment with CBD-THC, prescribed by neurologists. The average age was 40 years (±8.2), 4 males and 3 females.

It was used for spasticity due to MS in two patients and it was off-label use for the rest of patients: two cases of refractory spasticity not caused by MS and three cases of neuropathic pain.

The quality of life improved 21%, showed by SF-36 questionnaire.

The average titration period was 26 days, the average dose used was 7.8 sprays/day (standard deviation 3.27) (min: 3 max 12), spread three times a day.

All patients, except for one, suffered adverse reactions, mainly mild or moderate dizziness (57% of them), dysguesia (taste alteration) 29% and hypotension (14%).

**Conclusions** The quality of life has improved for our patients treated with CBD-THC.

As many adverse effects appeared and it was difficult to manage this drug the pharmacist’s role assumed considerable importance; monitoring and pharmaceutical care is very necessary.

No conflict of interest.

**EXPLORATORY ANALYSIS OF 1,936 SNPS IN 225 ADME GENES FOR ASSOCIATION WITH BUSULFAN CLEARANCE IN ADULT HEMATOPOIETIC STEM CELL RECIPIENTS**

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**Background** Busulfan is used in preparative regimens prior to stem cell transplantation (SCT). There is significant inter-patient variability in busulfan pharmacokinetics (PK) and outcome is related to exposure.

To date, only polymorphisms in genes encoding for glutathione-S-transferases have been studied; they could only explain a small portion of the variability in PK.

**Purpose** To investigate the role of other genetic variants on busulfan clearance by interrogating 1,936 variants in 225 genes that are involved in drug absorption, distribution, metabolism and excretion (ADME).

**Materials and Methods** 62 adult patients who received busulfan were genotyped using the Drug Metabolizing Enzymes and Transporters (DMET) array. Busulfan clearance was estimated with a limited sampling (t = 2.5, 4 hrs) PK model. Individual SNPs were associated with busulfan clearance. Top SNPs and haplotypes were replicated in an independent cohort (n = 78).

**Results** In the discovery cohort 7 variants (3 SNPs and 4 haplotypes) explained 64% (adjusted R2) of variance in busulfan clearance (p < 0.001). These genetic variants, located in GSTA5, CYP2C19, CYP39A1 (2 haplotypes), ABCB4, SLC22A4 and SLC7A8, were replicated in the second cohort. One haplotype in GSTA5 (rs4713554 and rs7746993) remained statistically significant (p = 0.025) for correlation with busulfan clearance.

**Conclusions** This is the first study using an exploratory pharmacogenetic approach in 225 genes involved in ADME to explain the inter-individual variability in busulfan clearance. The GSTA5 haplotype was significantly correlated with busulfan clearance, both in the discovery and replication cohort. No additional genetic markers involved in drug metabolism and transport appear to be associated with busulfan clearance.

No conflict of interest.

**IMPACT OF MDRI POLYMORPHISMS ON THE ANALGESIC EFFICACY OF TRAMADOL IN PATIENTS AFTER MINOR SURGERY**

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**Background** P-glycoprotein is a transmembrane transporter coded by the ATP-binding cassette sub-family B multi-drug resistance gene (MDR-1) gene. It influences the bioavailability, disposition and excretion of many drugs. Among the 50 SNPs of the MDR1 gene, more attention has been focused on the SNP at position 3435 in exon 26. Homozygous TT samples were associated with more than two-fold lower intestinal MDR1 expression levels compared with homozygous CC samples. A trial in patients suffering from chronic and cancer pain reported decreased opioid consumption in carriers of the 343ST allele. Our previous data suggest that the pharmacokinetics and therefore effectiveness of tramadol could be affected by MDR1 polymorphism C343ST.

**Purpose** To evaluate the possible effect of MDRI polymorphisms on the analgesic efficacy of tramadol in realistic clinical settings.

**Materials and Methods** Pain intensity was assessed using a visual analogue scale at 2 and 24 hours after minor surgery in 156 patients. Polymorphisms and gene duplication in the MDR1 gene were analysed by PCR–RFLP (restriction fragment length polymorphism).

**Results** Variant allele 3435ST was seen at a frequency of 58.3%. There were no statistically significant differences between MDR1 subgroups in basic demographic parameters. Mean VAS24h in groups C3435CC, C3435CT and C3435TT were 40.0 ± 11.8; 45.2 ± 17.9; resp. 43.5 ± 16.1 mm (P = ns). Corresponding values for mean pain difference, defined as VAS2–24h were 19.3 ± 12.1; 21.5 ± 14.6 and 23.4 ± 15.4 mm (P = ns). Mean tramadol consumption was 2.47 ± 1.17, resp. 2.42 ± 1.1; 2.42 ± 1.1; 2.44 ± 1.3 mg/kg (F = ns) during the 24 h period. There were no significant differences in the drug consumption, reporting of adverse reactions or need for rescue analgesics among the MDRI genotype subgroups.

**Conclusions** Although there were approximately 20% higher mean pain difference values in the 343STT group in comparison with the wild-type subjects, the between-group variation did not reach statistical significance.

No conflict of interest.

**NILOTINIB VERSUS IMATINIB FOR THE TREATMENT OF PATIENTS WITH NEWLY-DIAGNOSED PHILADELPHIA CHROMOSOME-POSITIVE, CHRONIC MYELOID LEUKAEMIA IN THE CHRONIC PHASE**

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**Background** Nilotinib is a BCR-ABL inhibitor designed to be more potent and selective than imatinib. Imatinib was the first of a new class of drugs that act by specifically inhibiting a tyrosine kinase receptor.

**Purpose** To assess the molecular response at 12 months from the start of nilotinib treatment, defined as BCR-ABL transcript levels on the International Scale of 0.1% or less by real-time quantitative PCR in a peripheral blood sample.