

In-field failures were registered after standard 40 Gy in 13.7% (7/51 patients, 95% confidence interval (CI): 4.2% to 23.1%) and after 24 Gy AHFX in 10.7% (7/66 patients, CI: 3.2% to 18.0%). Median time to in-field-failure was shorter in chemoresistant relapse: 4 months (range 1-11) versus 15 months (range 8-21) in chemosensitive relapse and refractory patients altogether. Out-of-field progression occurred in 51% (27/53 patients) and 28% (11/39 patients) cases, respectively. Median time to out-of-field progression was 4 months (range 1-27) and 15 months (8-24), respectively. Deaths from progressive disease occurred in 10 relapsed patients; 2 patients died of treatment-related AML and AMML.

Conclusions: This randomized study suggests that the low-dose RT in AHFX regimen can provide the similar rate and duration of local control for post-CT residual disease as standard 40 Gy.

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POSTER

Phase II clinical experience with the novel proteasome inhibitor bortezomib (formerly PS-341) in patients with indolent and mantle cell lymphomas

O.A. O'Connor¹, J. Wright², C. Moskowitz¹, D. Straus¹, B. MacGregor-Cortelli¹, J. Muzzy¹, P. Choi¹, D. Schenkein³, A.D. Zelenetz¹. ¹ Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, Medicine, New York, N.Y., USA; ² National Cancer Institute, Investigational Drug Branch, Bethesda, M.D., USA; ³ Millenium Pharmaceuticals, Cambridge, M.A., USA

The ubiquitin proteasome pathway plays an essential role in the degradation of most short- and long lived intracellular proteins in eukaryotic cells. At the heart of this degradative pathway is the 26S proteasome, an ATP dependent, multicatalytic protease. The 26S proteasome plays a vital role in degrading regulatory proteins that govern cell cycle, transcription factor activation, apoptosis and cell trafficking. Some of the targets of ubiquitin proteasome mediated degradation include p53, p21, NF- κ B, I κ B and bcl-2. Several lines of preclinical data have confirmed that inhibitors of the proteasome can act through multiple mechanisms to arrest tumor growth, tumor spread and angiogenesis. Phase I trials have confirmed tolerability of the drug and have suggested possible clinical activity in indolent lymphomas and myeloma. Correlative studies performed in the Phase I and II clinical trials have established a dose response relationship between dose and the extent of proteasome inhibition seen in peripheral blood mononuclear cells. To date, we have administered over 65 cycles of PS-341 (average 3.8 per patient) to 17 previously treated patients with relapsed or refractory indolent lymphomas (small lymphocytic lymphoma-CLL type (n=2); marginal zone lymphoma (n=1); follicular lymphoma (n=7) and mantle cell lymphoma (n=7). All patients were required to sign and informed consent and had to have adequate hepatic and renal function. Adequate hematologic counts including an ANC of > 1000 cells/ μ l and a platelet count $> 100,000/\mu$ l were also required. All patients had received some form of treatment prior to receiving PS-341, including: CHOP; CVP; cyclophosphamide/fluorouracil; rituximab; interferon, and one patient who had received two regimens of a complex combination chemotherapy program that included alkylating agents, tubulin inhibitors, anthracyclines and antimetabolites. Patients were treated at a dose of 1.5 mg/m² twice weekly for two consecutive weeks with a one week rest period. Re-staging studies were routinely performed after two complete cycles of therapy. Both patients with small lymphocytic lymphoma were found to have stable disease after 2 and 4 cycles respectively. Of the 6 evaluable patients with follicular lymphoma, there was one CR, 5 PR (i.e. $> 50\%$ reduction in tumor volume). Of 7 patients with mantle cell lymphoma (1 not evaluable for response yet), 3 patients had a PR, 3 had stable disease. One patient with MCL continues to maintain his PR ($> 80\%$ reduction in his disease) at 14 months since the completion of therapy. These preliminary data continue to support the biological activity of PS-341 in patients with indolent lymphomas, especially follicular and mantle cell lymphoma. Accrual to this trial continues.

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POSTER

Hairy cell leukemia: early immunological diagnosis and quantitative analysis of flow cytometry

O. Babusikova, A. Tomova. Cancer Research Institute, Slovak Acad. Sci., Department of Cancer Immunology, Bratislava, Slovakia

(1) Background. Immunophenotypic analysis of bone marrow (BM) and peripheral blood (PB) by flow cytometry is not widely used as a method for diagnosis HCL. The abnormal coexpression of the so-called 'HCL-restricted' markers - CD22+CD11c, CD25 and CD103 on monotypic, slightly large B-lymphocytes has been shown to be highly characteristic of HCL. The main aim of our study was to determine if patterns with low levels of

neoplastic cells in BM or PB are valuable in the diagnosis and minimal residual disease (MRD) detection in HCL. Next we wished to determine if quantitative immunophenotyping given by molecules of equivalent soluble fluoresceine (MESF) could help to distinguish pathological B-lymphocytic pool. We investigated serially lymphocyte subsets after treatment with 2-Chlorodeoxyadenosine (CdA) to confirm CD4+ lymphopenia. (2) Material and methods. The abnormal immunophenotypes were studied in 18 patients with suspect HCL (all patients had other manifestations of HCL), or during follow-up of already treated patients. Flow cytometric measurement was performed on an EPICS ALTRA Flow Cytometer using double- or triple-staining and Expo 32 program for analysis. For evaluation of marker density expressed in flow cytometry by mean of fluorescence intensity, fluorescent calibration microbeads were used. (3) Results. In 12 HCL patients (67%) permanent complete remission was observed after treatment. In the rest of 6 patients (33%) we identified transient MRD+ phenotype but the clinical manifestation of relapse was followed in only three patients. The pathological cells in low levels were found in 4 patients at diagnosis (in the range of 7 to 18%) and in patients with MRD+ phenotype they were recognized repeatedly in the range of 2 to 8%. Furthermore, we observed in hairy cells significantly higher values of molecule numbers of B-cell markers, comparing to residual B-cells in nonleukemic lymphocyte gate of the same sample. We found profound and persistent CD4+ lymphopenia in majority of studied patients after CdA treatment. (4) Conclusions. Flow cytometric immunophenotyping is highly sensitive and specific method and is capable to detect low levels of malignant cells in HCL. Quantitative analysis of MESF values of pathological and normal residual B-cells seems to be a new marker of HCL, reliable detecting also small cell numbers in examined sample. A long-term decline of CD4+ T-cells correlated with the relatively low incidence of clinical progression of HCL.

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POSTER

Comparison of MOPP versus ABVD as Salvage Therapy in Patients Who Relapsed After Radiation Therapy Alone for Hodgkin's Disease

A. Ng¹, S. Li², D. Neuberg², B. Silver¹, M. Stevenson³, D. Fisher⁴, P. Mauch¹. ¹ Brigham and Women's Hospital, Radiation Oncology, Boston, USA; ² Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Biostatistical Sciences, Boston, USA; ³ Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Radiation Oncology, Boston, USA; ⁴ Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Adult Oncology, Boston, USA

Purpose: Randomized trials by cooperative groups have demonstrated the superiority of Adriamycin, bleomycin, vinblastine, dacarbazine (ABVD) over mechlorethamine, Oncovin, procarbazine, prednisone (MOPP) in the treatment of newly-diagnosed Hodgkin's disease (HD). We sought to compare the efficacy of the 2 regimens as salvage therapy in patients with relapsed HD after radiation therapy (RT) alone.

Methods: 100 patients with HD initially treated with RT alone between 1980 and 1997 subsequently experienced a relapse. 41 patients were salvaged with MOPP and 59 received an ABVD-containing regimen. Freedom from second relapse (FSR), defined as time from the end of salvage treatment to second relapse, death or end of follow-up, and overall survival (OS), defined as time from the end of initial treatment to death or end of follow-up, were estimated using the Kaplan-Meier method. Survival curves were compared using log-rank tests. Cox proportional regression models were used to evaluate potential predictive factors. Variables analyzed were: age at diagnosis, histology, number of initial sites, time to first relapse, relapse stage, extranodal disease at relapse and salvage chemotherapy regimen.

Results: The median follow-up time after first relapse was 12 years for all patients (range, 1-22 years), 17.3 years for MOPP patients (range, 7-22 years) and 8.3 years for ABVD patients (range, 1- 18 years). The 10-year FSR rates for all patients, MOPP patients and ABVD patients were 70%, 72% and 68%, respectively (MOPP vs. ABVD: $p=0.62$). The corresponding 10-year OS rates were 89%, 85% and 92%, respectively (MOPP vs. ABVD: $p=0.64$). On univariate analysis, age ≥ 50 at initial diagnosis significantly predicted for lower FSR ($p=0.001$) and OS ($p=0.0001$). On multivariate analysis, age ≥ 50 significantly predicted for inferior FSR [hazards ratio (HR)=9.1, $p=0.0001$] and OS (HR=8.5, $p=0.001$). No other factors were significant. Of the 41 MOPP patients, 12 (29.3%) developed a second malignancy (2 leukemia, 1 non-Hodgkin's lymphoma and 9 solid tumors). Of the 59 ABVD patients, 11 (18.6%) developed a second malignancy (1 leukemia, 2 non-Hodgkin's lymphoma and 8 solid tumors).

Conclusions: Patients who relapse after RT alone for HD have a high salvage rate. Older age at diagnosis is the only significant predictor for poorer salvage outcome. In contrast to initial HD therapy, MOPP and ABVD showed no significant differences in efficacy as salvage therapy for RT failure. Potential explanations for the lack of differences could be a greater likelihood in a single-institutional setting to push for full doses