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**QUALITY OF LIFE IN GENERALIZED MALIGNANT MELANOMA:**

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The Swedish Melanoma Study Group is running a multi-centre prospective randomized study, comparing DTIC + Vindesine and DTIC + Vindesine + Cis-platinum in generalized malignant melanoma. Criteria to be evaluated are survival, response rate, toxicity and performance status. A Quality of Life (Q of L) study is currently running in parallel at the above in three centres. A QL self-report questionnaire is being administered to every patient who enters the study, both before treatment commences and at well-defined intervals throughout the treatment cycle. The core instrument of the EORTC's Quality of Life Study Group is being used, together with a specific questionnaire which focuses on consequences of chemotherapy, disease-related symptoms and worthwhileness of treatment. The aim of the study is to assess QL in patient with advanced melanoma during treatment with chemotherapy, comparing the different regimens. The attempt will also be made to correlate QL measures with toxicity, response rate, survival, symptoms of disease and opinions of hospitals' staff and patients' families concerning patients' Q of L. The reliability and validity of EORTC's core instrument will also be tested. The results which are here presented are those obtained by pilot study. From these early data we conclude that the QL questionnaire is applicable for use with generalized malignant melanoma patients. Compliance in questionnaire-completion appears to be further enhanced where assistance is given to patients by a member of staff. Comprehension of questionnaire items (which are clearly regarded as relevant) appears to be satisfactory. Completion appears on the whole to be non-stressful. Patient-participation entails between 15 and 20 minutes of their time and does not appear to disturb medical routines.