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POSTER

PROGNOSTIC FACTORS IN OVARIAN CARCINOMA IN PATHOLOGIC COMPLETE REMISSION (PCR) AT SECOND LOOK SURGERY (SL)

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Prognosis of ovarian carcinoma in pCR at SL is still controversial. In a series of 83 patients in pCR at SL, we retrospectively studied several prognostic factors (age, stage, histologic grade, histologic type, initial residual disease after first surgery, time to CA 125 normalization). Median age was 55 years (20–80), there were 5 Stage IC, 17 Stage II, 53 Stage III and 7 Stage IV. All patients underwent an initial maximal debulking surgery followed by 6 platinum based chemotherapy cycles and SL. Consolidation treatment was variable and consisted of intraperitoneal mitoxantrone in 52 pts, intensive chemotherapy in 17 pts or others in 14 pts. Stage (I + II vs III + IV), histologic grade (1 + 2 vs 3), histologic type (serous vs non-serous) were of no prognostic value for relapse. Age < or > 55 years (Disease Free Survival (DFS) 71% vs 55%), initial tumoral residue < or > 2 cm (DFS 85 vs 41%) and time to CA 125 normalization < or > 8 weeks (DFS 80.5% vs 44.4%) are statistically significant for relapse at 2 years ($P < 0.05$). The combination of CA 125 normalization < 8 weeks with absence of macroscopic tumoral residue permits to define a group with a very good prognosis, while patients with CA 125 normalization > 8 weeks and an initial macroscopic residual tumor display a poorer prognosis (DFS at 2 years 100 vs 47%, $P < 0.05$).

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AMIFOSTINE (AMI) SELECTIVELY PROTECTS AGAINST CUMULATIVE TOXICITIES OF CYCLOPHOSPHAMIDE (C) AND CISPLATIN (P)

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Two hundred and forty-two advanced ovarian cancer pts were randomized to receive 6 cycles of 1 gm/m² C and 100 mg/m² P ± 910 mg/m² Ami every 3 weeks. Ami significantly reduced the incidence of cumulative nephrotoxicity. Protracted elevations of serum creatinine were reduced from 13.3% with CP to 1.6% with Ami + CP, $P = 0.001$. Following the last cycle of chemotherapy, 32% CP patients vs 10% Ami + CP had ≥40% decrease in creatinine clearance, $P < 0.001$. Ami also reduced the overall incidence of treatment limiting renal, neuro-, or ototoxicity by 62% (26% to 10%, $P = 0.001$). Additionally, 7% of CP patients compared to 1% of Ami + CP discontinued therapy due to hematologic toxicity, $P = 0.016$. Fever and/or infection associated with grade 4 neutropenia was reduced by 52% (21% to 10%) in the Ami + CP arm, $P = 0.019$ with a consequent 60% reduction in days in hospital, $P = 0.019$ and days on antibiotics, $P = 0.031$. The incidence of grade 4 neutropenia was also significantly reduced in the Ami + CP arm at the last cycle, $P = 0.001$. Antitumor efficacy as assessed by pathologic tumor response rates and survival was preserved. With a median follow-up of 41 months, survival curves are identical; median survivals: 31 months. Ami selectively protects normal tissues from the hematologic and non-hematologic toxicities from CP without any loss of antitumor activity.

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COLOR-DOPPLER ULTRASOUND IN RADIOLOGICAL EVALUATION OF OVARIAN LESIONS

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32 patients with 37 ovarian expansive lesions (18 cystic, 19 solid or mixed) were evaluated by color-Doppler examination and the RI (resistive index) was calculated. If the RI was >0.40 the lesion was considered benign, if it was <0.40 malignant. All lesions were confirmed at surgery or laparoscopy. The technique showed a high sensitivity (75%) and specificity (92%) with 3 false negatives due to borderline carcinomas and 2 false positives due to thecomas. The method is anyway a very reliable tool for the diagnosis of malignancy based on the characteristics of the vascular pattern.

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LONG TERM OUTLOOK IN 421 OVARIAN CANCER PATIENTS FROM A SINGLE INSTITUTION

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This retrospective study analysed 421 patients with epithelial ovarian cancer referred to a U.K. cancer centre between 1984–1991 for clinicopathological factors, management procedures and survival. Median follow up was 34 months. The actuarial survivals were FIGO stage I >10 yrs, stage II 34.5 m, stage III 17 m, stage IV 10.5 m ($P = 0.00001$). Other tumour related factors with a significant effect on survival were ascites ($P = 0.0006$), and differentiation ($P = 0.00001$). The smaller the residual disease, the better the survival ($P = 0.0001$) both for stage III alone and for all stages, and the most marked improvement in survival was seen between <2 cm and microscopic residual disease, rather than between 2 and 5 cm as in previous series. Omentectomy and BSO/TAH were clearly associated with a survival benefit. The most common treatment regimen for advanced disease was the cisplatin/cyclophosphamide CP combination ($n = 122$). In both stage III and stages III/IV combined there was a clear benefit of the order of 6 months in favour of platinum containing regimens ($P < 0.0002$). This difference was not apparent for single agent treatments. There was little difference between cisplatin ($n = 227$) and carboplatin ($n = 91$) regimes, but these were clearly better than other drugs ($P = 0.0007$). Re dose intensity there was consistently a trend in favour of those patients receiving cisplatin at a dose of 20 mg/m²/week ($P = 0.03$ in pts. receiving CP × 4 or more cycles). ECOG performance status 0 or 1, and age <70 yr. were also found to be associated with favourable survival. The data suggest that further improvement in survival may be achieved by aggressive debulking of stage III patients, and confirm the survival benefit of platinum based chemotherapy.

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HIGH DOSE CHEMOTHERAPY IN ADVANCED OVARIAN CARCINOMA WITH BULKY RESIDUAL DISEASE

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From February 1989 to December 1991, 80 patients: stages IIIC (58)—stages IV (22). Suffering from bulky ovarian adenocarcinoma with important residual diseases after first surgery were included in a study testing the feasibility and the potentiality of a three drug association chemotherapy. All patients had to accept a second look laparotomy and to give an informed consent. Cisplatin (100 mg/sqm), Carboplatin (300 mg/sqm), Cyclophosphamide (300 mg/sqm), were infused every 4 weeks according to the protocols of each participating Center. Antiemetic drugs transfusions, rehydration and hospitalizations were left to each clinician's decision. Precise guidelines were given for the delay of the chemotherapy, according to the toxicity.

However only 4 G 3 infections and 7 G 2 hemorrhagic toxicities were observed, one patient died the day of the first course, and one stopped due to intolerable hematological toxicity. Late toxicity was observed included parasthesias tinnitus, and severe ototoxicity.

Immediate results are encouraging with pathological complete responses in 27% (stage IIIC) and 23% (stage IV) patients.

Survival seems also better than with current treatments: median survival 31 months stage III and 19 months for stage IV.

Since June 1992, a phase III study comparing a classical regimen (Cisplatin-Cyclophosphamide) with this three-drugs association is now underway.

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PHASE I STUDY WITH PACLITAXEL IN COMBINATION WITH IFOSFAMIDE IN PRETREATED PATIENTS WITH ADVANCED OVARIAN CARCINOMA

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Introduction: Patients (pts) with advanced ovarian carcinoma and an inadequate response to first line platinum based combination chemotherapy have a very poor prognosis. Salvage regimens were clearly needed. In order to determine the maximal tolerable dose (MTD) of the combination paclitaxel (P) and ifosfamide (IFO), we performed this ongoing phase I study.