

Combination D-estramustine and progression-free interval >6 months increase chances of response to D. Prospective clinical trials are needed to confirm these results.

	1st Line D (n = 223)	2nd Line D (n = 223)	3rd Line D (n = 87)	4th Line D (n = 38)
Median progression free interval since last D dose	–	6 mo	5 mo	4 mo
PSA decrease $\geq 50\%$	100%	40%	39%	26%
Clinical improvement	27.8%	17.0%	9.2%	15.8%
Stable disease	69.5%	65.5%	64.4%	60.5%
Non responder	2.7%	17.5%	26.4%	23.7%

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POSTER

Multiple Docetaxel (DOC) Re-challenges (ReC) in Castration-resistant Prostate Cancer (CRPC) Patients (pts) – Outcomes and Predictive Factors of Response

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Background: Responder pts to first-line DOC, who have stopped the treatment in absence of progression, usually experience a disease progression within few months. ReC with DOC is now considered as a therapeutic option for these pts, who are potentially able to achieve again a response. In the clinical practice, the possibility of obtaining a new response by a DOC re-challenge may be usually considered on the basis of the response to the previous treatment. The available data usually report on the clinical outcome of pts who have received one or two ReCs, but it is unclear whether more ReCs may be offered to these pts and there are additional factors able to identify pts who may respond to ReC.

Materials and Methods: From March, 2002 to December, 2010, a consecutive series of 45 CRPC pts received at least one ReC after first-line DOC, for a total of 91 ReC courses (median 2, range 1–7). ReCs consisted of 4–6 DOC cycles and were proposed until the appearance of a true resistance to DOC: we consider as DOC-resistant pts showing a clinical and/or biochemical progression during DOC treatment. For each ReC course, we recorded the following parameters: treatment schedule (3 wks vs weekly), estramustine use (yes vs no), PSA response ($\geq 50\%$) at the previous DOC course, baseline parameters (hemoglobin, alkaline phosphatase, pain presence, ECOG), number of previous DOC courses, PSA parameters (slope LOG, doubling time, velocity) during both previous DOC course and treatment holiday, duration of treatment holiday before ReC. A binary logistic regression analysis was applied. Continuous variables were categorized by quartiles and chosen for the initial model after a univariate chi-square analysis.

Results: In 67% of 91 ReCs we observed a PSA reduction $\geq 50\%$. After a median follow-up of 25 mos, the median survival is 32 mos and the projected 2-years overall survival is 77.5%. In our experience, multiple ReCs were well tolerated with no more than grade 1–2 hematological and non-hematological toxicities. Having an interval log-PSA equal to or more than 0.62 [(exp(beta) 8.965; $p=0.020$), an interval from the previous cycle equal to or more than 23 weeks [(exp(beta) 8.212; $p=0.002$), a response to the previous cycle [(exp(beta) 7.658; $p=0.014$), resulted to be independently predictive of a response to ReC.

Conclusions: In our experience multiple DOC ReCs may be administered in DOC-sensitive pts with CRPC. This may provide a long-term disease control with remarkable survival rate and a second line treatment may be retarded until the appearance of a true DOC-resistance. Response to the previous cycle, interval log-PSA ≥ 0.62 and the interval from the previous cycle of at least 23 weeks are factors able to identify the pts having more probabilities to respond to ReC.

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POSTER

Bicalutamide in Combination With Vandetanib or Placebo in Patients With Castration-refractory Metastatic Prostate Cancer Without Any Clinical Symptom Related to Disease Progression – a Randomized, Double-blind Phase II Trial

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Background: Vascular endothelial growth factor receptor (VEGFR) and epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR) are involved in angiogenesis and mechanisms of castration-resistant prostate cancer (CRPC). The study assessed the efficacy of vandetanib (VEGFR and EGFR inhibitor) in combination with bicalutamide in patients (pts) with CRPC.

Materials and Methods: Chemotherapy-naïve, asymptomatic metastatic CRPC pts were randomized to bicalutamide 150 mg orally o.d. + vandetanib 300 mg orally o.d. (bV arm) or matched placebo orally (bP arm) using 1:1 ratio. Primary endpoint was biological progression free rate at 4 months based on prostate specific antigen (PSA) level. Main secondary endpoints were time to biological/clinical symptoms (PSA response rate, time to cancer related clinical progression, tolerability and safety profile) and overall survival (OS).

Results: Ninety-five patients were randomized 1:1 to bV (n=47) or bP (n=48). At data cut-off in November 2010, 2 pts were still on treatment and 17 were deceased. The study did not meet its primary objective of an improved PSA progression free rate at 4 months in the bV arm. Of 89 evaluable patients: 8/44 pts in the bV arm were progression-free at 4 months vs 7/45 pts in the bP arm. Secondary objectives were not met either with bV (time to biological/clinical symptoms [hazard ratio = 1.17, 95% CI 0.76–1.81; $p=0.478$]). OS data were immature at time of data cut-off.

Common adverse events (any grade) occurring more frequently with bV compared to bP included diarrhea (43.8% vs 10.6%), hypertension (29.2% vs 10.6%), nausea (18.8% vs 0), electrocardiogram QT prolonged (16.7% vs 2.1%) and photosensitivity reaction (10.4% vs 0).

Conclusions: bV showed only limited therapeutic activity in CRPC.

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POSTER

Effectiveness of a Second Course of Docetaxel in Metastatic Prostate Cancer

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Background: Docetaxel is a 1st line treatment option for metastatic castration-resistant prostate cancer (mCRPC). We aimed to assess the clinical benefit of rechallenging docetaxel treated mCRPC with that drug upon progression.

Materials and Methods: A retrospective cohort study, in a Portuguese cancer centre, included patients (pts) with mCRPC who underwent a second course of docetaxel upon disease progression. Primary endpoint was overall survival (OS) calculated by the Kaplan-Meier method. Secondary end-point was severe adverse events rate (SAE).

Results: Between 2000 and 2010, 136 pts with mCRPC were treated with docetaxel. A total of 35 (26%) pts were rechallenged with docetaxel. Docetaxel re-treated pts had a median age of 72 years (range 58–83); 43% had a Gleason score of ≥ 8 and 45% were metastatic at diagnosis. Age at first docetaxel treatment, Gleason score, AJCC stage and time since prostate cancer diagnosis were comparable between docetaxel rechallenged pts and those that were not. Median time between completion of first course of docetaxel and its rechallenge was 6.5 months (95CI 5–8). Median overall survival was 17.5 months (95CI 12–23). During the second course of docetaxel, 7 pts developed SAE (health status deterioration, 3; metabolic events, 2; infectious events, 2).

Conclusions: Progression after first line docetaxel treatment in mCRPC remains a challenging clinical problem. Cabazitaxel is approved for use in patients previously treated with docetaxel, even though disease progression on docetaxel was observed in only 30% of pts. Our survival results, with a median time of overall survival of 17.5 months, are comparable to those of Cabazitaxel treated pts in its registration trial. Despite the retrospective design and possible selection bias, our results