



Service Priorities and Programmes
Electronic Presentations

Convention ID: 318

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Results, side effect profile and patient satisfaction after one-year maintenance intravesical Bacillus Calmette-Gurein for non-muscle invasive bladder cancer

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Keywords:

intravesical Bacillus Calmette-Gurein

non-muscle invasive bladder cancer

patient satisfaction

side effect profile

Introduction

Intravesical Bacillus Calmette-Gurein (BCG) remains the main stay of adjuvant treatment for intermediate and high risk non-muscle invasive bladder cancer patients to reduce the risk of recurrence. However it is frequently associated with side effects, which affects patient compliance and hence treatment effect.

Objectives

This study aims to review the results, side effect profile and patient satisfaction of intravesical BCG treatment after 1-year maintenance treatment by Connaught strain BCG in Queen Elizabeth Hospital.

Methodology

Patients who had started intravesical BCG treatment from July 2010 to August 2012 were reviewed. They were scheduled for 6 weekly induction and 3 weekly maintenance treatment at 3rd, 6th and 12th month by 81mg Connaught strain BCG. Demographic data, pre-treatment cancer risk assessment and the surveillance cystoscopy results were reviewed. Adverse effects of BCG were assessed after 1-year maintenance treatment by Common Terminology Criteria of Adverse event (NCI-CTCAE) version 3.0. Patient satisfaction was measured by a questionnaire with self-rating scale from 1-5.

Result

63 patients were included for review with the mean follow up 16 months (8-23 months). This accounted for 945 scheduled day admissions. T1, Grade 3 and Cis occurred in 34.9%, 43.1% and 28.6% patients respectively, with 95.2% and 81% intermediate risk for recurrence and progression respectively according to EORTC scoring system. There were 22% patients withdrawn from BCG treatment due to side effects of treatment. All the side effects were in grade 1 to 2. Pain on urination and Urinary frequency occurred in 77.8% of all patients. Cancer recurrence and progression occurred in 19% and 6% patients respectively after 1-year maintenance treatment. The results were comparable with the published series. Overall, the patients satisfied

with our service with staff manner and management of complications rated 87.7 and 77.4 out of 100 marks respectively. Our results showed that the standard of care of BCG treatment was comparable to the reported series. Excellent nursing support and complication management were the key to the patient compliance and treatment outcome.