GEFITINIB IN NON-SMALL CELL LUNG CANCER: EFFECTIVNESS AND SAFETY

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Aim and Objectives

To analyze the survival impact of gefitinib on patients with lung adenocarcinoma with the activating Tyrosine Kinase mutation of the Epidermal Growth Factor Receptor (EGFR-TK) and to study its safety.

Materials and Methods

Observational retrospective study

All patients with NSCLC and gefitinib

Demographic variables:
- Age
- Sex

Clinical variables:
- Stage
- Line of treatment
- Functional status (PS) according to the scale (ECOG)

Other variables:
- Smokers

Adverse reactions and comorbidities

Efficacy endpoints:
- Progression-free survival (PFS) by RECIST 1.1

Results

31 patients with EGFR mutation

Demographic variables:
- 69.5±11.4 years
- 74.2% women

Other variables:
- 28.57% were current or past-smokers

Clinical variables:
- Stage was IV in 100%
- First line: 58.1%; second line: 12.9%; third line: 29%
- 64.28% had ECOG-PS 0–1

Adverse reactions:
- Digestive toxicity: 22.57% grade 1 (G 1) diarrhoea
- Cutaneous toxicity: 14.28% G1
- Conjunctivitis 3.57%

Comorbidities:
- 58.1% high blood pressure
- 25.8% diabetes
- 16.1% coronary heart disease
- 29% asthma/chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
- 3.2% chronic kidney disease.

Efficacy endpoints:
- PFS was 7 months
  (95% confidence interval [CI] 3 –12)

Conclusion and Relevance

Gefitinib showed similar efficacy to Interest Phase III Study (n=44) and slightly lower than Ipass (n=261) and Isel (n=189) Phase III Studies (PFS: 9.5-10.8). Further analysis with real world patients are necessary to know accurately PFS. In general, gefitinib was well tolerated.