EFFECTIVENESS ANALYSIS OF PEMBROLIZUMAB IN PATIENTS WITH ADVANCED NON-SMALL-CELL LUNG CANCER WITH VERY HIGH VS HIGH PD-L1 EXPRESSION

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BACKGROUND AND IMPORTANCE

Pembrolizumab showed longer overall survival compared with chemotherapy in the first-line treatment of advanced non-small-cell lung cancer (aNSCLC).

AIM AND OBJECTIVES

To evaluate the effectiveness of pembrolizumab in highly expressing patients with aNSCLC, comparing patients with PD-L1 expression ≥ 90% (very high) vs those with PD-L1 50-89% (high) in a tertiary hospital.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

- Observational, retrospective study.
- Inclusion criteria: patients with NSCLCa with pembrolizumab from August/2018 to August/2022.

RESULTS

- 40 patients were included, 16 with very high PD-L1 and 24 with high PD-L1 expression.
- 73.17% patients were male with median age 43 years [80-37] and ECOG=1 [0-2].
- 39.02% were current smokers, 53.65% were former smokers and 4.8% were non-smokers.
- Median overall survival in PD-L1(high) patients was 16.46 months vs. 21.57 months median overall survival in PD-L1(very high) patients. P=0.92 is obtained from the PD-L1(High) versus PD-L1(very high) survival curves.

CONCLUSION AND RELEVANCE

Survival results in PD-L1 patients (≥ 90%) compared to less expressors were positive but without statistically significant differences. It could be due to the small study sample. However, the median survival obtained is consistent with data from previous studies, it would be advisable to study this hypothesis in larger cohorts.