REAL LIFE EXPERIENCE OF HOME CARE ADMINISTRATION OF 5-AZACITIDINE AND DOMICILIARY MANAGEMENT OF PATIENTS WITH MYELODYSPLASTIC SYNDROME

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Background and Importance

Most patients with intermediate-2 and high-risk myelodysplastic syndrome (MDS) have a median age of 75 years and 25% of them are diagnosed beyond 80 years of age. Therefore, many of them may have great difficulty to travel to the hospital during the 7 days of duration of each cycle of 5-azacytidine treatment.

Aim and Objectives

To analyse the experience and results of the administration of 5-azacytidine in the domiciliary care in clinical practice and to evaluate the therapeutic adherence.

Material and Methods

• 4-year prospective observational study on 40 MDS patients with a median of age of 76 years, with difficulty to travel to the day hospital to received treatment with 5-azacytidine during 7 days

• The drug was prepared in the hospital pharmacy service, using the water reconstitution method for refrigerated injections and kept in refrigerator (2-8 ºC), resulting in both chemically and physically stable solutions for 22 hours.

• The variables considered in this study were: beginning of treatment with 5-azacytidine, treatment duration, level of satisfaction of patients, treatment adherence and detected side effects.

Results

• 40 MDS patients received treatment with 5-azacytidine in domiciliary care during a mean of 15 months of treatment.

• 75% of the patients showed great difficulty to travel to the day hospital because they required an accompanying person and 35% did not possess supporting infrastructure.

• 100 % of the patients were highly satisfied with the service, therapeutic adherence improved in 95% and it was detected side effects in 15% of them (neutropenia, anaemia and gastrointestinal reactions).

Conclusion and Relevance

✓ The administration of 5-azacytidine in domiciliary care in MDS older patients with difficulty to travel to the day hospital has allowed to bring support to these patients, improving the day hospital logistics, increasing the satisfaction of the patients and its adherence to the treatment and offering a better quality healthcare.