

IDENTIFICATION OF RARE DPYD VARIANTS ASSOCIATED WITH TOXICITY TO FLUOROPYRIMIDINES IN A CLINICAL PHARMACOGENOMICS PROGRAMME

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BACKGROUND AND IMPORTANCE

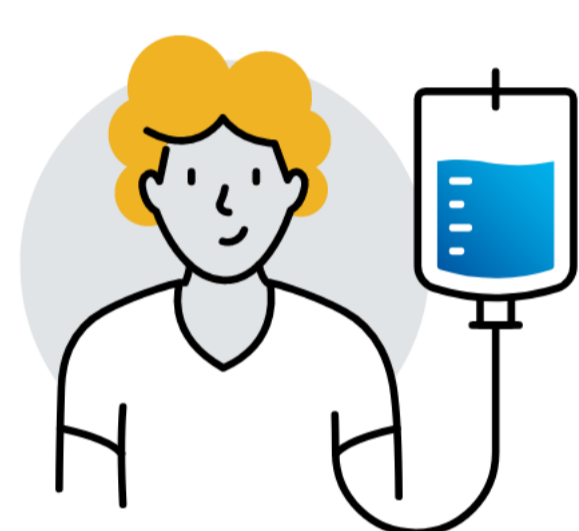
Dihydropyrimidine dehydrogenase (DPYD) is a **key enzyme** in the **metabolism of fluoropyrimidines** (5-fluorouracil, capecitabine). Patients with deficiency in DPYD are in **great risk of severe adverse events** when treated with fluoropyrimidines. Although **patients are screened** for the most common variants, **some develop serious toxicities**.

AIM AND OBJECTIVE

A **Clinical Pharmacogenomics Program** targeted to patients who **developed toxicity with fluoropyrimidines** was implemented.

We report **rare variants** in the DPYD gene associated with severe toxicity.

MATERIALS AND METHODS



DPYD
sequencing



Identification of variants
associated with toxicity

- ✓ Treatment recommendations
- ✓ Patient counselling
- ✓ Development of new test

Patients who suffered severe toxicities (grade \geq 3 as per CTCAE) during their first three cycles of treatment with fluoropyrimidines were identified by their oncologist or oncology pharmacist. They were all negative for the four recommended variants (DPYD*2A, c.2846A>T, c.1679T>G, and c.1236G>A). Complete sequencing of the 23 DPYD exons was performed in these patients.

RESULTS

Table 1. Identified variants in *DPYD* correlated with toxicity.

- Since 2017, **91 patients** have been included in the program.
- **32 variants** in DPYD have been identified.
- **9/32** were **associated** with **severe toxicity** (table 1).
- This clinical pharmacogenomics program helped found the cause of toxicity in **10%** (9/91) of patients.

Variant	DPYD deficiency	Association with increased toxicity
c.257C>T	+	+
c.704G>A	+	+
c.775A>G	+	+
c.851G>T	+	+
c.1977-1984-CTCCAGAA>C	+	+
c.2087G>A	?	+
c.2197insA	+	+
c.2242+1G>T	+	+
c.2324T>G	+	+

Results were discussed with the Oncology team and treatment adjustment recommendations were provided. Patients were also informed of the findings.

CONCLUSION AND RELEVANCE

- **Uncommon variants** in the *DPYD* gene that were associated with toxicity to fluoropyrimidines **were identified** with this clinical pharmacogenomics program.
- These variants can be further included in extended screening programs for patients treated with fluoropyrimidines.