TREATMENT OF METASTATIC HER2+ BREAST CANCER: USE OF TRASTUZUMAB BIOSIMILARS IN COMBINATION WITH PERTUZUMAB

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Background and importance

Pertuzumab is indicated for use in combination with trastuzumab and docetaxel in adult patients with HER2-positive metastatic or locally recurrent unresectable breast cancer, who have not received previous anti-HER2 therapy or chemotherapy for their metastatic disease. The first biosimilars of trastuzumab were marketed in 2018. Biosimilar medicines are safe and effective, provide a lower cost treatment option for the national health service, therefore, allow increased access to high cost therapies.

Aim and objectives

Cost-effectiveness comparison of pertuzumab+trastuzumab originator vs pertuzumab+trastuzumab biosimilar. Evaluation of the efficacy and safety of treatment with biosimilar trastuzumab and economic impact.

Material and methods

Consultation of prescriptions from oncology doctors

Control of Pertuzumab + trastuzumab originator vs Pertuzumab + trastuzumab biosimilar combinations prescribed and treatment cycles

Monitoring of prescription and administrative appropriateness by consulting the monitoring registers of the Italian drug regulatory agency

Results

Since 2014 in our hospital 30 patients have been treated

11 active treatments 19 closed treatments

3 patients have started with biosimilar trastuzumab

9 patients have switched to trastuzumab biosimilar

80% ended before the switch to biosimilar trastuzumab

464 cycles of trastuzumab biosimilar + pertuzumab done

Total cost biosimilar vs originator trastuzumab

146 160,00€ 469 104,00€

Biosimilar trastuzumab

Originator trastuzumab

SAVING 323 000€

Conclusion and relevance

In clinical practice, treatment in combination with biosimilar trastuzumab has demonstrated efficacy and safety, with no increase in end-of-treatment for progression/toxicity/causes dependent on the biosimilar drug. The reduction in economic impact was significant.