EFFECTIVENESS OF OMALIZUMAB ON ASTHMATIC PATIENTS

Servicio de Farmacia Hospitalaria del HUNSC, SPAIN

BACKGROUND
Omalizumab is a humanized monoclonal antibody manufactured by recombinant DNA technology; it is indicated as add-on therapy to improve asthma control in patients with severe persistent allergic asthma with FEV1< 80%.

PURPOSE
To evaluate the effectiveness of omalizumab (Xolair®) on asthmatic patients treated with this drug in a tertiary hospital during 2015.

MATERIAL AND METHODS
An observational retrospective study of patients treated for asthma with omalizumab during 2015 in a tertiary hospital. Data were obtained by Farmatools and Drago AE programs. All patients treated with omalizumab at less 1 year were included. Clinical variables collected were: forced expiratory volume in one second (FEV1)(RD> 80 %), serum total level of IgE (RD< 100 UI/mL) and omalizumab dose. Effectiveness was evaluated by times of emergency department visits for asthma.

RESULTS
66 patients were included in the study, mean age 37 years old (40 women, 26 men). 94% of patients did not required emergency visits for asthma.
At start of the study, they presented mean serum levels IgE of 1702 UI/mL, during this period a mean decreased of 47 % was observed. However at the end we observed increasing serum level of IgE in all patients.

Due to Omalizumab is indicated in patients diagnosed of persistant allergic asthma, we should considerate in patients with FEV1 < 80 % to discontinue treatment.

CONCLUSION
Omalizumab had a high effectiveness on this study, similar or even higher than the effectiveness showed on the clinical trials. Also we observe that lower baseline total IgE has been associated with treatment less effective.