SURVIVAL BENEFIT WITH LENALIDOMIDE AND DEXAMETHASONE IN PATIENTS WITH MYELOMA: AREA UNDER THE CURVE-BASED REANALYSIS

**BACKGROUND**

Benboubker et al. recently reported the results of lenalidomide+dexamethasone (Ld) in patients with melanoma versus the standard therapy, with a difference between medians of 4.3 months in progression free survival (PFS).

As seen in the shape of the curves, difference in median survival (DMS) may not provide a good estimate of the survival benefit.

**PURPOSE**

To reanalyze the survival benefit of lenalidomide from the PFS curves using an area-under-curves (AUC) based method.

**MATERIALS AND METHODS**

Kaplan-Meier PFS and OS curves were extracted from Benboubker et al.'s article.

Graphical AUC was applied compared to DMS.

According to a previously published method (1), AUC method quantifies the difference between areas, and the results are expressed in time units.

**RESULTS**

**PROGRESSION FREE SURVIVAL**

67.5% patients included & 47 months of follow-up, PFS = 2.7 months (17.0 vs. 14.3)

**OVERALL SURVIVAL**

43.5% patients analyzed & 50 months of follow-up, OS = 5.3 months (25.5 vs. 20.2)

**CONCLUSIONS**

AUC-based analysis showed a shorter survival benefit than the difference in median survival.

This is probably related to the shape of the curves, which diverged at the medium zone of the graph.

OS reanalysis is very limited because the observation time is insufficient to provide mature data.