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EFFECTIVENESS OF ABIRATERONE IN PROSTATE CANCER IN CLINICAL PRACTICE

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BACKGROUND
Abiraterone is an expensive drug used in hospitals for metastatic prostate cancer and it is necessary to evaluate health outcomes from its use to establish whether it is cost-effective treatment.

PURPOSE
To analyse the effectiveness profile of abiraterone for metastatic prostate cancer in a tertiary hospital.

MATERIAL AND METHODS
Retrospective observational study of three years, since abiraterone was first marketed to the present (November 2011-July 2014). All prostate cancer patients treated with abiraterone were included. Variables recorded: age, performance status (ECOG) and progression-free survival (PFS). Data were collected from patients medical records.
The statistical analysis was ANOVA followed by t test. A confidence limit of P <0.05 was set for the interpretation of results.

RESULTS
33 patients were included in the study. The median age was 72.
The PFS was 7.0 (5.2 - 8.8) vs 2.9 (0.7 - 5.1) months for patients with ECOG 0-1 and ECOG2 respectively (p = 0.01).
5 patients were treated in first line, 3.8 months of PFS (9.1 months for ECOG0-1 patients and 1.0 months for ECOG2 patients).
28 patients in second line, 4.2 months of PFS (5.0 months for ECOG2-1 patients and 2.6 months for ECOG2 patients)

CONCLUSIONS
Our results indicate that ECOG 2 patients derive little clinical benefit from abiraterone.