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Treatment pattern and overall survival among patients with locally advanced or metastatic urothelial carcinoma: Results from a complete nationwide unselected real-world registry study in Denmark from 2010 to 2017

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Background

Platinum-based chemotherapy (PBC) remains the cornerstone of first-line (1L) treatment of locally advanced (LA) or metastatic urothelial carcinoma (mUC). However, the optimal number of PBC cycles remains unknown. We provide a report on treatment patterns and effectiveness in the pre-immuno-oncology (IO) era.

Methods

Among all Danish UC patients with an incidence date between 2010 and 2017, we identified a population with stage IIIb or IV (n=3206) (AJCC, 8th edition) UC, 36% (n=1141) of whom received systemic anticancer therapy for their disease. Patients were stratified by the number of completed 1L cycles of cisplatin-gemcitabine (CG) or carboplatin-gemcitabine (CaG). We used the Kaplan-Meier method to estimate overall survival (OS), number of patients who lived long term (OS>2 years) on 1L therapy only and share of patients who received second-line (2L) treatment.

Results

811 patients (71 % of patients receiving systemic therapy) received CG or CaG during the study period. 71% were men, and mean age was 67.9 years (SD, 9.1 years). Patients on CG were younger (64.4 vs 70.8 years) and had a longer median OS (mOS; 14.2 vs 8.6 months) than CaG recipients (mean follow-up, 28 and 21.3 months, respectively). Only 14% and 7% of patients on CG and CaG lived long term. 35% of all LA/mUC patients receiving 1L CG or CaG treatment reached 2L treatment within ≥1 year of follow-up.

Conclusions

In an unselected nationwide Danish registry cohort, 36% of patients received systemic anticancer therapy. Also, only 35% of PBC treated patients got 2L treatment, with few patients living long term on 1L CG or CaG only. The attrition highlights the need to treat patients with LA/mUC with the most effective and tolerable frontline agents; these may alleviate the unmet need in this elderly population with poor outcomes.

Effectiveness of treatment in patients who received CG or CaG as 1L treatment

1L treatment	No. of chemo cycles	N	OS, median, months	6, 12- and 24-months OS rates, %	OS >2 years on 1L only, n	Patients receiving 2L, n (%)
CG	1-3	104	5.8	47, 35, 21	13	26 (25)
	4	60	14.5	80, 58, 37	11	23 (38)
	5	50	14.4	>95, 60, 36	9	16 (32)
	6	139	17.0	92, 63, 35	22	63 (45)
	>6	189	16.7	96, 66, 39	23	84 (44)
	All	542	14.2	83, 58, 34	78 (14.4%)	212 (39)
CaG	1-3	99	4.5	42, 19, 9	6	17 (17)
	4	35	7.9	74, 29, 11	<5	9 (26)
	5	35	10.6	80, 46, 29	<5	8 (23)
	6	76	12.8	>95, 53, 24	5	31 (41)
	>6	31	11.0	>95, 45, 23	<5	11 (35)
	All	276	8.8	71, 36, 17	20 (7.2%)	76 (28)

Legal entity responsible for the study

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Disclosure

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