

Synoptic table of relevant drug interactions to be used as clinical decision support tool on haemato-oncology wards

Objectives

The vast majority of oncology patients is older than 65 years. Due to comorbidities and age-related multimorbidity, patients often use multiple drugs on a routine basis when cancer is diagnosed. The start of antineoplastic drug therapy poses an additional risk to the patients regarding adverse events caused by drug-drug interactions.

The aim of our study was to reduce the incidence of drug-drug interactions in haemato-oncology patients by providing a synoptic table of relevant interactions between antineoplastic drugs and drugs frequently used in elderly cancer patients. The synoptic table is meant to facilitate clinicians' prescribing decisions by offering a quick overview on the most relevant interactions in this specific patient population.

Methods

Interaction characteristics of pre-elected drugs were evaluated by a systematic literature search covering the summaries of product characteristics and five drug interaction databases (bccancer.bc.ca, drugs.com, Lexi-Interact, Micromedex, Stockley's Drug Interactions). For each combination of potentially interacting drugs, the information retrieved on severity, type of interaction and suggested clinical management was assessed by three hospital pharmacists and the final dataset agreed. Concise and standardized wording for type and management of interactions was defined. A self-developed questionnaire was used to determine the clinicians' satisfaction with the tool.

Results

The synoptic table (see Table 1) features 26 antineoplastic drugs in alphabetic order and 36 potentially interacting drugs. Only interactions categorized as *clinically highly significant* or *clinically significant* (colour-coded in red and yellow, respectively) are recorded. Interactions emerging as class phenomenon were compiled as combined dataset. 30% of 47 listed interactions were classified as *clinically highly significant*. Hardcopies and electronic versions of the table were introduced to the clinicians. 56% (9/16) of prescribing clinicians completed the questionnaire. The decision support tool was well received by clinicians (compare Figure 1) and members of the certification body.

Conclusion

The synoptic table on clinically significant drug interactions in elderly cancer patients has proven as an easy-to-use and well accepted decision support tool. Regular updates and education of the users are necessary.

Table 1: Synoptic table of relevant drug-drug interactions in elderly oncology patients

Ausgewählte klinisch bedeutsame Arzneimittelinteraktionen (3. Medizinische Klinik)		
Wirkstoff 1	Wirkstoff 2	Schweregrad
		ROT klinisch SEHR schwerwiegende Interaktion GELB klinisch schwerwiegende Interaktion
Abirateron	Johanniskraut Rifampicin	Rot Yellow
Afatinib	Azol-Antimykotika Bosutinib Dasatinib Erlotinib Gefitinib Ibrutinib Idelalisib Imatinib Nilotinib Ponatinib Ruxolitinib	Yellow Yellow Yellow Yellow Yellow Yellow Yellow Yellow Yellow Yellow Yellow
Bosutinib Erlotinib Ibrutinib	Ciprofloxacin	Yellow
Axitinib Bosutinib Dasatinib	Protonenpumpen-inhibitoren/H2 Blocker	Yellow
Erlotinib	Protonenpumpen-inhibitoren/H2 Blocker	Yellow
Idelalisib Imatinib Nilotinib	Statine	Yellow
Arsenitroxid	Chinolone, Makrolide	Yellow
Azol-Antimykotika	Phenytoin Statine	Yellow Yellow
Fluconazol	Erythromycin	Red
Brivudin	Capecitabin / 5-FU Tegafur	Red
Ciclosporin	Dronedaron Johanniskraut Makrolide Methotrexat Nicht steroidale Antiphlogistika Statine	Red Red Yellow Yellow Yellow Red
Enzalutamid	Azol-Antimykotika Bortezomib Cabazitaxel Clopidogrel Makrolide Statine Cumarine	Yellow Yellow Yellow Yellow Yellow Red Red
Makrolide	Statine	Red
Mercaptopurin	Allopurinol	Yellow
Methotrexat	Ciclosporin Ciprofloxacin Metamizol Nicht steroidale Antiphlogistika Probencid Protonenpumpen-inhibitoren Sulfamethoxazol / Trimethoprim	Yellow Yellow Red Red Yellow Yellow Yellow
Panobinostat	Azol-Antimykotika Makrolide Johanniskraut Rifampicin	Yellow Red Red Red
Procarbazine	Antidepressiva: SSRIs, trizyklische, tetrazyklische Linezolid Morphin Tramadol	Yellow Yellow Yellow Yellow Yellow
Tamoxifen	Fluoxetin / Paroxetin (Cyp 2D6-Inhibitor)	Red
Vincristinsulfat	Azol-Antimykotika	Yellow

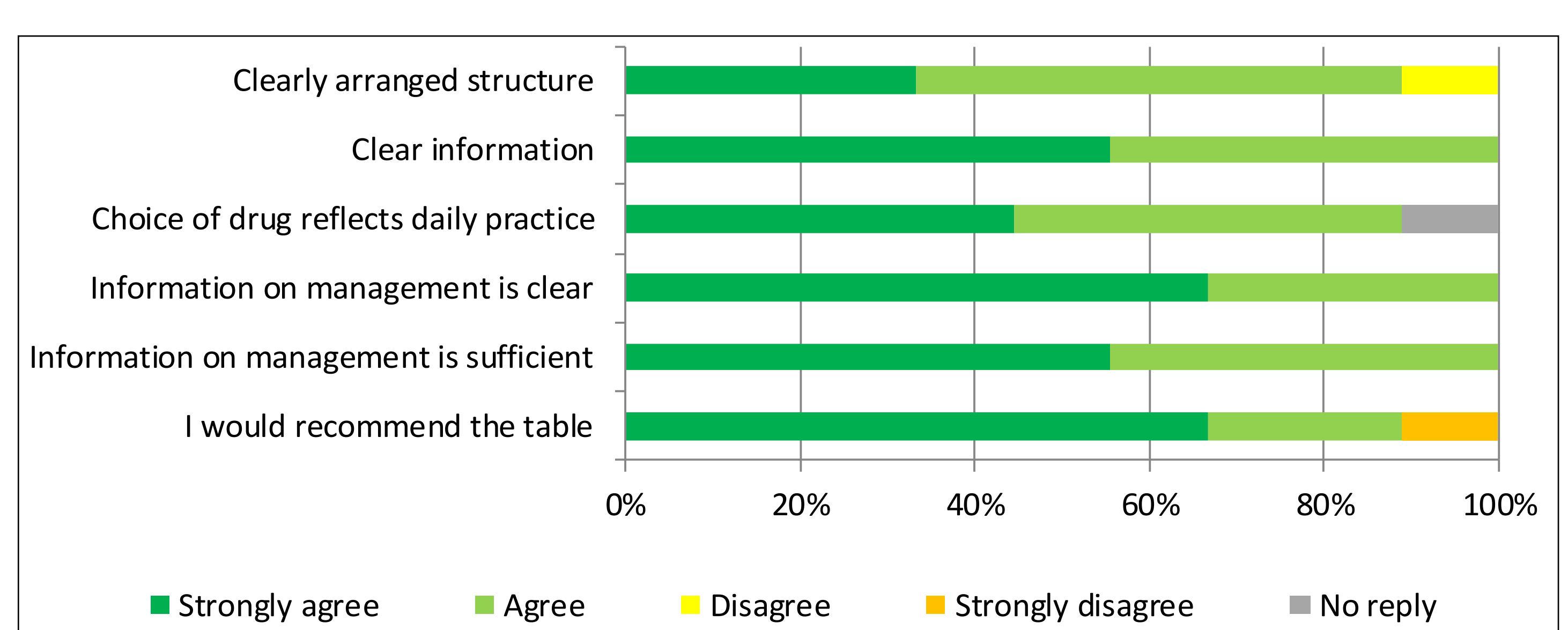


Figure 1: Clinicians' satisfaction with the synoptic table according to the questionnaire (n=9)