REAL WORLD EXPERIENCE OF SELEXIPAG FOR PULMONARY ARTERIAL HYPERTENSION

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BACKGROUND

Pulmonary arterial hypertension is a life-threatening disease causing an increment in pulmonary vascular resistance which leads to right ventricular failure and death.

Selexipag is an oral selective IP prostacyclin-receptor agonist, was shown to be beneficial in the treatment of pulmonary arterial hypertension, reducing morbidity and mortality in these patients. It was approved by the AEMPS in 2015.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The aim of this study was to evaluate the medication adherence and the evolution of baseline characteristics, the NT proBNP, functional class (WHO-FC) and no invasive studies like 6-minute walking test after starting treatment with Selexipag.

The risk stratification before and after starting oral treatment with Selexipag were also analyzed.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Since the inclusion of Selexipag in our therapeutic guide in November 2017 until April 2020, there has been a total of 7 patients (85.7% were female).

The adherence was calculated based on the dispensation records and the other parameters of the study were monitored in every visit.

RESULTS

- All the patients show pulmonary arterial hypertension:
  - 3 of them associated to a congenital heart defect (2 in Eiseenmenger´s syndrome due to uncorrected heart defect and 1 with corrected heart defect).
- All of them were in treatment with a phosphodiesterase-5 inhibitors (PDE5-I) and endothelin receptor antagonists (ERAs) before starting Selexipag.

- Respect to WHO Functional Class:
  - 2 patients were in low risk situation (switch from inhaled treprostinil to Selexipag).
  - 4 patients were in intermediate risk situation
  - 1 in high risk situation (who after the titration phase due to the persistence of the high risk situation was changed to epoprostenol)
- ✓ After the titration phase 1 patient of the intermediate risk group change to low risk situation.
- ✓ We found that the treatment with Selexipag reduced the functional class, the 6-minute walk test, NT-proBNP and right heart failure symptoms.

- Respect to the adherence, the medium percentage of medication adherence was 97%:
  - 5 patients have 100% of adherence to the treatment
  - 1 patient have 98% of adherence
  - 1 patient have 80% of adherence.
- 50% of the patients reached high dosed of Selexipag, being the most common side effects diarrhea and muscle pain.

CONCLUSIONS

The use of selexipag in our clinical practice in pulmonary arterial hypertension patient improves risk parameters (functional class and 6-minute walk test) and right ventricle systolic function.

The patients show high rates of adherence and good tolerance to the treatment with low incidence of side effects.