

TOCILIZUMAB TREATING COVID PNEUMONIA: ANALYSIS OF EFFECTIVENESS AND SECURITY

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OBJETIVE

The main objective is to evaluate TCZ security and effectiveness in the treatment of COVID-19 pneumonia.

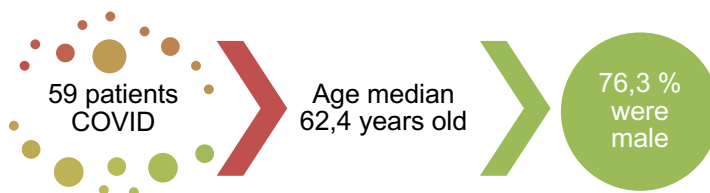
MATERIALS AND METHODS

Retrospective observational study among patients with COVID-19 pneumonia treated with TCZ from 20th March to 20th May 2020 at a tertiary hospital.

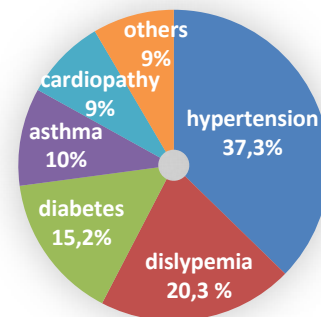
Study variables:

Age
Sex
TCZ dose
Need of invasive ventilation
Need of non-invasive ventilation
Intubation days
Oxygen therapy
Days of inpatient care
Admission at critic care units (ICU)
Time spent at ICU
Adverse reactions
Deaths

RESULTS



Comorbidities



72 hours after TCZ administration 52,5% of the patients presented a respiratory improvement with an oxygen therapy reduction need, 30,5% (presented a stabilization in their condition and 8,5% suffered a worsening in the condition, requiring orotracheal intubation.

7 days after TCZ administration 73% presented a clinical improvement with an oxygen therapy need reduction, 8,5% patients remained stable with VNI and 14% suffered a worsening. (6 passed out, 2 were admitted at the ICU).

TCZ dosage was 600 mg in 43 (72,9) patients and 400 mg in 16 (27,1%) patients, with 1,27 doses per patient. 12 patients received 2 doses and 2 patients 3 doses. Tocilizumab was well tolerated with no adverse effects detected.

28 days after TCZ administration, mortality was 15,2%, 69% were discharged and 15,2% remained interned at the end of the study.

CONCLUSIONS

Results of the study show **TCZ was effective and safe** at patients suffering from COVID pneumonia. Patients evolution was favourable in most of the cases. During admission, patients presented an important clinical improvement with a **reduction of invasive ventilation and oxygen therapy need**.

Due to a potential bias (patients received different treatments before and after TCZ) and the small sample size, it is necessary to confirm these results with controlled clinical essays.