

DRUG UTILISATION STUDY OF BEVACIZUMAB IN A TEACHING REFERRAL PAEDIATRIC HOSPITAL

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BACKGROUND

Bevacizumab is a humanized monoclonal antibody against vascular endothelial growth factor authorized for adult cancer treatments. There are several case series and clinical trials on the use of bevacizumab in paediatric tumours at dose range of 5-15 mg/kg every 2-4 weeks.

PURPOSE

To describe the use of bevacizumab in oncologic patients of a referral paediatric hospital.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

✓ Data from patients treated with bevacizumab were obtained based on off-label use and medical history records from January to September 2017

- ✓ Each case was previously authorized by our Medical Director and a signed Informed Consent obtained
- ✓ We collected all indications, treatment duration, dose regimen and, if any, reason for discontinuation

<u>RESULTS</u>

✓ 62 patient's records analysed



- ✓ Side effects were similar to those reported in literature
- ✓ Median duration of treatment was 5.5 months (IQR 13.75)
- ✓ The most common dose regimen was 10 mg/kg (83.9%) every two weeks (79.0%)

CONCLUSION

Bevacizumab was mainly used to treat CNS tumours at a dose of 10 mg/kg every 2 weeks. After a median treatment duration of 5.5 months, the drug appeared to be safe since only a 6.5% of the treatments were discontinued due to side effects. Our results are consistent with the literature except for radionecrosis.

More studies are needed, though, to assess its efficacy and long term adverse events.