

Analysis of clinical effectiveness of treatment with peginterferon plus ribavirin in chronic hepatitis C monoinfected patients

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Background:

Pegylated interferon (Peg-INF) in combination with ribavirin (RBV) is currently the gold standard therapy in chronic hepatitis C (HCV) patients, achieving in published data a viral eradication in approximately 50-60% of patients.

Purpose:

To assess the clinical effectiveness of Peg-INF plus RBV for the treatment of chronic HCV mono-infected patients.

Material and Method:

Retrospective observational study involving 152 patients.

Inclusion criteria: HCV mono-infected patients treated from October 2006 to July 2010.

Data sources: pharmacy database and medical records.

Exclusion criteria: coinfection, hemodialysis and those with insufficient data to analyse.

Data collected: demographic data (age, gender), laboratory reports (genotype, viral load), clinical characteristics, type of Peg-INF and RBV and Peg-INF doses.

Was assessed: The primary end-point was a sustained virological response (SVR). Secondary end points included rapid virological response (RVR), early virological response (EVR) (complete or partial), final viral response (FVR) and virologic relapse.

Results:

152 patients were analysed, 84 were included
mean age 46 years
65.5% male

Parameters	Results
Genotype 1-4 (%)	67.1
Treated with Peg-INF α -2a (%)	51.2
Average viral load (IU/ml)	1.9×10^{10}
Viral load >600.000 IU/ml (%)	40
Liver fibrosis stage F3-F4 (%)	36.6

	Global	Genotype 1-4	Genotype 2-3
RVS (%)	62,5	60.88	72
RVR (%)	45,5	31.7	73.9
EVR (%)	76,3	69.2	92.3
EVR partial (%)	11,3	11.5	7.7
Relapse (%)	18,2	13.8	4.4

Conclusions:

The verall SVR rate observed were in accordance with published data, as well as the higher proportion of patients with genotype 2-3 that achieved a RVR and the highest rate of relapse observed in those with genotype 1-4.