

IPIILIMUMAB EXPERIENCE IN ADVANCED MELANOMA

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BACKGROUND: Ipilimumab is a high-cost drug that requires authorization from the Medical Direction for its use in our hospital.

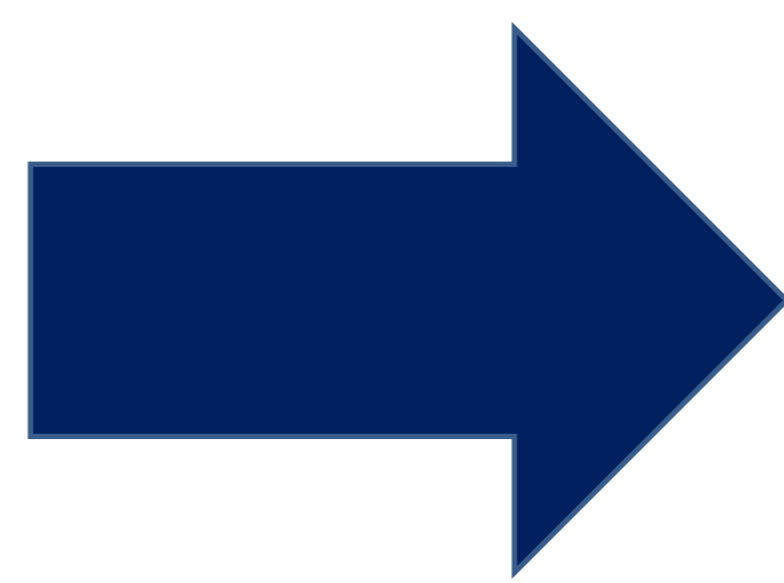
PURPOSE: To describe the experience with ipilimumab in the treatment of advanced melanoma (unresectable or metastatic) after, at least, one prior unsuccessful chemotherapy treatment in a third-level hospital.



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MATERIALS AND METHODS:

Retrospective review of medical records of all patients treated and collection of the following data:



- Diagnosis
- Pre-treatments
- Number of cycles
- Response to treatment
- Tolerance and safety

RESULTS: From January 2012 ipilimumab has been requested for 6 patients (four men and two women) with a mean age of 53 years (45-60).

▪DIAGNOSIS

- Level II melanoma (n=3)
- Level III melanoma (n= 1)
- Level IV melanoma (n=1)
- Choroid melanoma (n=1)

▪PRE-TREATMENTS

- High-doses of interferon(n=2)
 - Fotemustine (n=2)
 - Vemurafenib (n=2)
 - Fotemustine(n=1)
 - Vemurafenib (n=1)
 - Ipilimumab (n=4)
- First -line
- Second-line

3mg/kg every 21 days x 4 cycles

▪TOLERANCE AND SAFETY

- Severe headache (n=2)
- Grade II gastrointestinal toxicity (n=1)
- Extremely itchy skin rash injuries (n=1)

▪AFTER FIRST-LINE TREATMENT

PATIENTS DEVELOPED METASTASES

- Lung and bone (n=2)
- Lung and liver (n=1)
- Lung and CNS (n=1)
- Bone and liver (n=1)
- Brain (n=4)

▪RECEIVED CYCLES

- ❖ n= 2 (4 cycles):
 - One patient had stable disease progressed after one month and died.
 - Only one of them had remained stable for the last two years.
- ❖ The remaining patients died when receiving 0 , 1, 2, 3 cycles of treatment due to complications of advanced tumor.

CONCLUSIONS:

In our experience, the only patient who received four complete cycles and had no brain metastases or choroidal melanoma showed better response to treatment. The remaining patients did not meet the inclusion criteria of the pivotal trial for the approval of ipilimumab. Patients with untreated brain metastases or eye located metastases were excluded from this study.