

Triple negative in breast cancer in Algeria: Prospective study

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Background: Breast cancer is a heterogeneous disease with different morphologies, molecular profiles, clinical behavior and response to therapy. The triple negative is a breast cancer is defined by absence of estrogen and progesterone receptor expression as well as absence of ERBB2 amplification. It is characterized by its biological aggressiveness, worse prognosis and lack of a therapeutic target. The incidence of TNBC accounts around 10% to 15% of all Breast cancer.

Methods: A retrospective study was carried out between December 2012 - December 2014. Eighty-eight medical records of TNBC (Triple negative breast cancer) were analyzed. The expression of estrogen and progesterone receptor and HER2 are identified by immunohistochemistry technique. We have evaluated the pathological overall response rates (complete and partial response) and the clinical pathologic features such as the age, stage, familial cancer, histological type, and the follow up.

Result: The median age at diagnostic was 45 years (25-64 years). Twenty (17%) were nulliparous and 58 (51%) patients had crossed the age of 35 years at first full-term pregnancy, 10 (9%) were post-menopausal at diagnostic. 4 (3.5%) patients had a family history of breast or ovarian cancer. All patients were stage III (locally advanced) at diagnostic, they received four cycle of neoadjuvant chemotherapy (NACT) based on doxorubicin 60mg/m² and 600mg/m² every 3 week, followed by four cycles docetaxel 100mg/m², then surgery and radiation. The pathological overall response rates (complete and partial response) after NACT were 19% with complete pathologic response rate and 55% partial response, and there were no relapses in the complete responders. The median follow-up was 44.11 months. Eighty-three patients (73%) were alive at last follow-up, 5 (4.4%) had relapsed, 2 (1.7%) had died due to progressive disease. Most of the relapses were cerebral and local relapses.

Conclusion: Identification of new target therapy and prediction of tumoral response to various treatments could help in the global understanding of patients affected by this particularly aggressive type of breast cancer.

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