

ABSTRACT

Introduction

RPLS is a clinicoradiographic entity of encephalopathy, seizures and neurologic symptoms with characteristic neuroimaging demonstrating lesions with posterior and white matter predominance and may be associated with chemotherapy agents.

Objectives

The purpose of this report is to document a rare case of RPLS during ziv-aflibercept treatment in colorectal cancer.

METHODS

A 79-year old man with metastatic colon adenocarcinoma under second line treatment with FOLFIRI + ziv-aflibercept since february 2016 presents in November 2016 with acute-subacute onset of language impairment, followed by temporospatial disorientation and visual hallucinations. This picture did not coincide with fever or change in medical treatments. Complementary studies were done ruling out ischemic, progressive metastatic disease or epileptiform activity. The MRI findings described diffuse and asymmetric cortical and subcortical lesions that support RPLS. The patient experienced resolution of the neurologic symptoms and was discharged 10 days later. Two months later follow up imaging experienced partial resolution. It is planed to rechallenge fluoropirimidines but not ziv-aflibercept.

RESULTS

In a review of the literature, a meta-analysis of safety data from three large placebo-controlled studies reported no RPLS among 1333 patients treated with ziv-aflibercept in combination with standard chemotherapy (Allegra et al, 2012). High rate of RPLS cases had been observed in combination with cisplatin/pemetrexed treatment in lung cancer patients reason why this combination is not recommended (Chen H, 2014).

CONCLUSIONS

Our patient's diagnosis of RPLS secondary to ziv-aflibercept treatment in colorectal cancer represents a rare incidence with only a few reported cases in the literature. Physicians should be aware of this adverse event.

REFERENCES

- Allegra et al, 2012. Addition of Aflibercept to Fluorouracil, Leucovorin, and Irinotecan Improves Survival in a Phase III Randomized Trial in Patients With Metastatic Colorectal Cancer Previously Treated With an Oxaliplatin-Based Regimen. Eric Van Cutsem, Josep Tabernero, Radek Lakomy, Hans Prenen, Jana Prausova', Teresa Macarulla, Paul Ruff, Guy A. van Hazel, Vladimir Moiseyenko, David Ferry, Joe McKendrick, Jonathan Polikoff, Alexia Tellier, Re'mi Castan, and Carmen Allegra
- Chen H, 2014 ONCOLOGY LETTERS 11: 1512-1516, 2016. Reversible posterior leukoencephalopathy syndrome following combinatorial cisplatin and pemetrexed therapy for lung cancer in a normotensive patient: A case report and literature review