



NEOPLASIA IN PATIENTS UNDERGOING DUODOPA THERAPY – AN EXPERIENCE IN COLENTINA CLINICAL HOSPITAL

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Background and aimes

- continuous levodopa-carbidopa intestinal gel (LCIG) is used to eliminate as much as possible the daily “off” time and dyskinesia in patients with advanced Parkinson’s disease (PD)
- long term use has proven to have side effects like weight loss and polineuropaties.
- there were some cases in literature that associated the use of DuoDopa with melanoma.

Methods

- observational study on 36 patients with DuoDopa therapy in Colentina Clinical Hospital, between 2012 and 2018.
- lot - 21 men and 15 women, ages from 42 to 72, all initiated with LCIG in our clinic
- follow - ups - every 3 months for the first year, then every 6 months
- a series of tests were performed (complete blood work, endoscopy and individualized test based on their complaints).

Results

- Ten patients had significant weight loss
 - ❖ 8 kg within 4 months from LCIG therapy initiation
 - 16 kg in the first year in one patient
 - 5 kg in the first month for other patient,
 - 10 kg in 6 months from treatment initiation
 - 15 kg in one year after initiation for the 4th patient
- Seven of them say there wasn’t any change in their dietary habits
- 3 of them complained about loss of appetite and constipation
 - ❖ The endoscopy showed one of them had a gastric lesion which proved to be a gastric carcinoma and the other two presented colonic masses (adenocarcinoma).
- There was one female patient that developed breast adenocarcinoma.

Conclusions

Taking in consideration the fact that in a lot of 36 patients, 5 developed some sort of cancer while undergoing LCIG and that the literature also mentions the relation between DuoDopa and melanoma, a screening for tumors should be kept in mind when dealing with these patients.

References:

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