

TIME TO DEVELOPMENT OF TREATMENT-EMERGENT PLASMACYTOMAS IN THE ERA OF NOVEL AGENTS

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Background

- The introduction of proteasome inhibitors (PI) and immunomodulatory agents (IMiDs) has had a positive impact on overall survival of patients with multiple myeloma (MM).¹
- In the era of novel agents, concerns have been raised about an increased incidence of extramedullary disease (EMD) with the combined use of PIs and IMiDs for upfront therapy.^{2,3}

Objectives

- Evaluate the time from diagnosis until development of EMD based on radiologic imaging, biopsy and/or physical examination.
- Determine whether the addition of lenalidomide (Len) to bortezomib (Bort)-based front-line regimens (e.g. RVD)⁴ precipitated the more rapid development of treatment-emergent plasmacytomas.

Methods

Study Design

We performed a retrospective chart review of 117 MM patients (pts).

Patient Population

Pts were eligible if they enrolled in clinical trials of first-line treatment with Bort-based regimens:

- with Len: Bort-Len-Dexamethasone [RVD], RVD-cyclophosphamide [Cy], RVD-vorinostat, and RVD-liposomal doxorubicin
- or without Len: Bortezomib monotherapy, Melphalan-prednisone-Bort [MPV], CyBortDex, combination of MPV- CNT0328 (an anti-IL-6 antibody)

Pts were evaluated from a protocol-derived clinical research data base at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute (DFCI) enrolling pts from December 2003 to May 2012.

Statistical Methods

- The Gray's test was reported for the comparison of time to occurrence of EMD by patient baseline characteristics in both univariate and multivariable analyses.
- Multivariable model was constructed by including all variables with p<0.15 in univariate analysis and ISS stage.
- To compare the rates of EMD, we conducted sensitivity analyses at truncated follow-up (F/U) times of 5- and 7-years, to control for any potential bias due to shorter follow-up.

Results

- Patient baseline demographics and clinical characteristics are presented in Table 1
- Overall, 69 pts received a Bort+Len regimen, while 48 pts received a Bort-without Len regimen.
- RVD and Bort as a single agent were the most prevalent (35% and 34.2%, respectively).
- Median F/U time was 6.1 years (range 0.1- 10.2 years); 5.6 years (range 1.5-7.4) vs. 8.9 (range 0.1-10.2), respectively, for Bort+Len vs. Bort-no Len.

Table 1. Patient and Disease Characteristics at Diagnosis

Baseline Characteristics	N	(%)	Baseline Characteristics	N	(%)
Gender			IFE		
Male	73	62.4	IgG k	48	41.0
Female	44	37.6	IgG L	26	22.2
Race			IgA k	18	15.4
White	102	87.2	IgA L	8	6.8
Black	8	6.8	IgM L	1	0.9
Hispanic	4	3.4	k	7	6.0
Other	1	0.9	L	2	1.7
ISS			None	6	5.1
I	55	47.0	Plasmacytoma		
II	51	43.6	None	77	65.8
III	10	8.5	Osseous	38	32.5
Durie-Salmon (D-S)			Extraosseous	2	1.7
IA	23	19.7	Hx of MGUS		
IIA	38	32.5	No	109	93.2
IIIA	52	44.4	Yes	8	6.8
IB	1.0	0.9	Hx of SMM		
IIIB	2.0	1.7	No	97	82.9
IIIB	1.0	0.9	Yes	20	17.1

- EMD was observed in the form of osseous (n = 32, 27.4%), extraosseous (n = 19, 16.2%) or any osseous or extraosseous plasmacytoma (n = 40, 34.2%) (Table 2)

Table 2. The cumulative Incidence of Plasmacytoma Progression (95% CI) for All Patients

All Patients	Osseous (%)	Extraosseous (%)	Any Plasmacytoma (%)
At 2 years	9 (4,15)	4 (2,9)	12 (7,19)
At 4 years	19 (12,26)	11(6,18)	25 (17,33)
At 5 years	23 (15,31)	15 (9,22)	30 (21,38)
At 6 years	29 (20,38)	16 (10,24)	36 (26,45)
Total Failure	32	19	40

- For the 19 pts who developed extraosseous plasmacytomas, the median OS was only 0.9 years (range 0.1-4.8 years) vs. 2.47 years (0.1-8.7) for the 32 pts with osseous plasmacytomas.
- Cytogenetic data was not associated with the development of EMD but interestingly, all pts who had extraosseous plasmacytomas did not exhibit a t(11:14) by FISH at diagnosis.
- The rates of any form of EMD showed no statistically significant difference between the 2 treatment groups (p>0.2 for all comparisons) (see Table 3).
- History of previous MGUS and low Hb (<12 g/dL) at diagnosis were associated with shorter time to development of extraosseous plasmacytomas (EOP) on univariate analyses (p = 0.06 and 0.05, respectively).
- On multivariate analysis, adjusted for ISS and other clinical risk factors, only history of MGUS retained its prognostic importance for progression of EOP.
- For progression characterized by osseous plasmacytoma, the presence of a plasmacytoma, a history of MGUS and elevated calcium (≥ 10) at diagnosis proved to be predictors of poor outcome from multivariate analysis (hazard ratio= 1.9, 2.3 and 2.6, respectively, adjusted p<0.1).

Table 3. Plasmacytoma progression-comparison between Len+ Bort and Bort-no Len with follow-up times truncated at 5 years

	T-years Progression Rate (%) (95% CI)		P-value	Hazard ratio
	Len+ Bort (N=69)	Bort-based (no Len) (N=48)		
Osseous			0.663	0.84(0.38,1.84)
At 2 years	7(3,15)	11(4,21)		
At 4 years	17(9,26)	22(11,35)		
At 5 years	22(12,32)	24 (13,37)		
Total failure, N	14	11		
Extraosseous			0.204	0.53(0.20,1.41)
At 2 years	4(1,11)	4(1,13)		
At 4 years	8(3,16)	13(5,25)		
At 5 years	11(5,20)	20(10,33)		
Total failure, N	7	9		
Any Plasmacytoma			0.503	0.79(0.40,1.57)
At 2 years	10(4,19)	15(6,27)		
At 4 years	23(13,33)	28(14,39)		
At 5 years	28(17,39)	33(20, 47)		
Total failure, N	18	15		

Conclusions and Future Directions

- Based on these results, there is no evidence to suggest that combination Bort/Len-based front-line therapy (such as RVD) precipitates more rapid development of EMD.
- Long term outcome for patients with EOP in particular remains poor, supporting further studies to improve therapeutic strategies for this population in the future.⁵

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