FC4.27.09

GEMCITABINE (G) + CARBOPLATIN (C) AS 2nd LINE THERAPY IN GYNAECOLOGIC CANCER PATIENTS: A PHASE I/II STUDY OF THE ARBEITSGEMEINSCHAFT GYNÄKOLOGISCHE ONKOLOGIE (AGO) STUDY GROUP

J. Quinn, (Dept. OB/GYN, University Hospital, Greifswald, Germany), H.J. Lück, W. Schröder, J. Blohmer, R. Kimmig, V. Möbus, J. Pfisterer, A. du Bois for the Arbeitsgemeinschaft Gynäkologische Onkologie (AGO) Study Group

Objectives: Platinum (P) sensitive malignant tumors of the ovary (relapsing > 6 month after P and paclitaxel [T]) are usually treated with P monotherapy. An advantage for monotherapy vs. a combination therapy is not yet established. Due to a persisting neuropathy at the time of relapsing (caused by the primary P/T therapy), non-neurotoxic substances for a P combination are wanted. G is an improved active substance in ovarian cancer (OC). To establish a study arm for a randomized phase III trial we performed a phase I/II trial with G/C.
Study Methods: 26 previously P and T treated patients (mostly OC) with a relapse > 6 months were treated on day 1 with C (dose: AUC 5 according to the Calvert formula); G (doses escalating 800-1000-1200 mg/m^2) was given on day 1 and 8. Maximum tolerable dose (MTD) was considered to be reached if 2/6 pts. experience dose-limiting toxicity (DLT) defined as: Neutropenia grade 4 > 7 days, febrile neutropenia, grade 4 thrombocytopenia or major organ toxicity grade 3 or higher.
Results: Neutropenia grade 3/4 in level I (12 pts./48 courses) and level II (6 pts./31 courses) was observed in 26% vs. 30%. Due to a grade 3/4 thrombocytopenia of 28% vs. 29% level 3 was cancelled and a Level IIa (G 1000 mg/m^2 day 1 and 8/C AUC 4 day 1) was established. There were no grade 4 hematologic and non-hematologic toxicity's to observe (7 pts.)
Conclusions :The combination of G (1000 mg/m^2 day 1 and 8) with C (AUC 4 day 1) q21x6 is safe to be recommended for phase III trials. A prospective randomized trial, comparing G/C with standard C in relapsed OC, has been initiated by the AGO OC Study Group in September 1999.