P-83 The impact of the multidisciplinary team (MDT) in the management of colorectal cancer (CRC)

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Background: The management of CRC is complex, particularly in metastatic disease, where it is crucial the definition of disease burden, the assessment of radiological response and the identification of the right timing for potential radical surgery or loco-regional treatments. A correct CRC evaluation and the subsequent choice of the most appropriate treatment strategy, need, therefore, a MDT involving surgeons, oncologists, radiologists, radiation oncologists, endoscopists, gastroenterologists and pathologists. Based on such considerations, we investigated the impact of the MDT meeting in the management of CRC at our Institution.

Methods: We retrospectively evaluated all the cases discussed at our MDT meeting between September 2019 and September 2021. We collected data, both pre- and post-MDT meeting, regarding radiology evaluation (disease control vs progression), surgical assessment (yes vs no) and radiotherapy evaluation (yes vs no). Primary endpoint was the overall rate of discrepancy in evaluation between pre- and post-MDT meeting.

Results: Between September 2019 and September 2021, 696 cases were presented at our MDT meeting. The median age was 65 years (24-86), 391 (56%) patients were male and 553 (79%) patients had metastatic disease at diagnosis. After MDT meeting, a total of 214 decisions were modified, for an overall discrepancy rate of 31%. In particular, among 377 cases discussed for radiology evaluation, 110 decisions (29%) were modified after a central imaging review: 80 cases initially evaluated as progressed disease before MDT meeting were defined stable after MDT meeting, for a discrepancy rate of 73%. Regarding the 246 cases discussed for surgical assessment on primary tumor and/or metastatic sites, treatment strategy changed in 86 cases (35%). More specifically, 16 cases (19%), evaluated unresectable before MDT meeting, were then considered resectable after MDT meeting. Finally, among the 71 cases discussed for radiotherapy evaluation, treatment strategy changed in 18 cases (25%).

Conclusions: Our analysis demonstrates a significant rate of discrepancy in radiology and/or surgical evaluation between pre- and post-MDT meeting. Our results show that a MDT allows a considerable modification in CRC management, maximizing the treatment strategy, in particular avoiding unnecessary changes in therapy and allowing surgery where possible.

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P-84 Can a patient navigator increase quality of life in colorectal cancer patients? The WeGuide trial

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Background: An estimated one-third of patients with cancer will experience clinically significant distress, manifesting as anxiety or depression that is associated with their diagnosis and treatment. This has been shown to negatively impact health outcomes and quality of life (QOL). Intrahospital processes are complex, involving a significant amount of paperwork and several stakeholders, creating overwhelming circuits which can add up to generating more anxiety. Patient navigators (PN) can help to overcome these barriers by helping in several dimensions: information management and mediation (organize clinical information, prepare appointments, engaging in patient-healthcare professional communication), healthcare education and self-care (clarifying doubts about the therapeutic process, encouraging adherence to therapy) and on emotional and spiritual support (mobilizing social and family support, self-help groups). On this basis, the investigators designed the WeGuide trial, with the primary objective of assessing the impact of a PN in the QOL of patients with colorectal (CRC) cancer and also the utility of a PN from the patient's point of view.

Methods: Participants were recruited from Hospital de Santa Maria and were randomized 1:1 to receive a PN or not. Three questionnaires (EORTC QLQ-C30, Utility Likert Scale and Satisfaction Scale) were applied in four moments: at diagnosis, three months, six months (end of therapy) and nine months (first follow-up). Value Based Health Care (VBHC) concepts were also applied to assess the impact of a PN on patient's well-being and on the cost-effectiveness of CRC treatment in the health care system.

Results: We present the results of a preliminary analysis of 30 patients (of 160 needed). The PN group had a better Global Health Status with the average score increasing in 12.37% ($p=0.05$) when comparing the baseline to the last evaluation. Several other dimensions also improved in the same time period: physical functioning (6.40%; $p=0.09$), role functioning (10.18%; $p=0.09$), emotional functioning (8.49%; $p=0.06$) and cognitive functioning (10.16%; $p=0.03$). Symptom scales registered an absolute decrease in average, albeit not statistically significant in the current analysis. Regarding VBHC, medical appointments were considered to be more effective, patient visits to the emergency department were reduced and there was also a reduction in the number of trips to the hospital by optimizing the scheduling of procedures to the same day when possible. Patient safety could also be improved, with PN reporting to the responsible physician when alarm thresholds/symptoms had been noticed.

Conclusions: PN were useful to patients in this setting, promoting their QOL and their emotional well-being in spite of few observations. Looking at these indicators, the result of the positive impact on the patient's functional capacity comes from an improvement in the emotional component and, above all, in the cognitive capacity. We still have few observations to establish a concrete VBHC.

Legal entity responsible for the study: The authors.

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P-85 Pre-surgical staging and surveillance after curative treatment for pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma (PDAC): Survey of practice in the United Kingdom (UK)

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Background: Differences in pre-operative staging and surveillance after curative treatment for PDAC hamper interpretation of outcome data.

Methods: This survey aimed to assess current practice and identify areas for improvement; it was circulated to members of the United Kingdom National Cancer Research Institute (NCRI) pancreatic cancer subgroup between 14/4-4/5 2021.

Results: A total of 23 responses were collected (medical oncologist 52.2%, surgeon 26.1%, radiation oncologist 13.0%, other 8.7%); the majority were Consultants (91.3%) working in tertiary care institutions (86.9%) who attended PDAC tumour boards (90.9%). For staging prior to curative surgery, all responders used computerised tomography (CT) (100%), and 61.1% used routine 18FDG positron emission tomography (PET) (16.7% used it only in specific occasions); only 38.9% used routine liver magnetic resonance imaging (MRI). In terms of surveillance following curative treatment, practice varied widely: 64.7% of responders considered imaging, tumour marker and clinical follow-up as routine practice after curative treatment, while 29.4% undertook follow-up without imaging; 5.9% did not offer any form of surveillance. Frequency of follow-up was either 6-monthly (60.0%), 3-monthly (26.7%), or variable (13.3%) and lasted for 5 years (73.3%), 2 years (6.7%), 3 years (6.7%), or other