

P0056

Poster Session I

Confronting fungal infections

CANDIDEMIA IN PATIENTS WITH HEMATOLOGICAL MALIGNANCIES: EPIDEMIOLOGY AND OUTCOME

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Objectives. To analyze etiology, risk factors and outcome of candidemia in patients with hematological malignancies.

Methods. The prospective study was conducted from January, 2006 to November, 2013. Clinical, microbiological results and outcome (according to EORTC/MSG criteria 2008) were analyzed. Mortality was estimated within 30 day from *Candida* spp. isolation from blood.

Results. Over 8-year period, 54 patients with candidemia were enrolled (31 male/ 23 female, median age 50 years (17-77)). Main underlying conditions were non Hodgkin's lymphoma (46%) and acute leukemia (28%). At the time of diagnosis of candidemia 69% of patients were neutropenic, 26% in complete remission and 28% with *de novo* hematological malignancies. 32% of patients developed candidemia while receiving antifungal agents. Species distribution was as follows *C. albicans* 37%, *C. parapsilosis* 15%, *C. krusei* 11%, *C. guilliermondii* 11%, *C. lusitanae* 6%, *C. glabrata* 6%, *C. tropicalis* 6%, *C. famata* 3%, *C. pelliculosa* 3%, *C. kefyr* 2%. Risk factors for candidemia were the use of central venous catheter (CVC) (96%), *Candida* colonization (89%), chemotherapy (85%), the use of antibiotics (89%) and corticosteroids (65%). Concomitant infection was in 36 (67%) patients. The antifungal agents were administered to 49 (91%) patients. The antifungal agents used in initial treatment were amphotericin B (38%), fluconazole (29%), caspofungin (21%), anidulafungin (4%), micafungin (4%), voriconazole (2%), itraconazole (2%). Five patients (9%) received no antifungal therapy (one patient died on first day of *Candida* spp. isolation from blood, 4 patients had regression of clinical signs of infection after the removal of CVC. The overall 30-day mortality rate was 44% and the attributable mortality rate was 17%. Survival (30 days) was 86,7% with echinocandin on the first line of treatment and 27,8% with amphotericin B as a first line drug (p=0.001).

Factors significantly associated with clinical response in hematological patients with candidemia

Factors	Clinical response according to presence or absence of analyzing factor n (%)		p
	Yes	No	
Echinocandin - first line drug	12/14 (86)	14/35 (40)	0.005
Remission of hematological malignancies	11/14 (79)	19/40 (48)	0.05
CVC removal	29/44 (66)	1/8 (13)	0.007
CVC removal on first day of positive <i>Candida</i> blood culture	25/33 (76)	4/11 (36)	0.02
Antifungal administration on first day of positive <i>Candida</i> blood culture	25/42 (60)	1/7 (14)	0.003
Septic shock, ICU admission	4/25 (16)	26/29 (90)	<0.0001
Duration of neutropenia > 20 days	2/15 (13)	28/39 (72)	0.0001
Amphotericin B - first line drug	5/19 (26)	21/30 (70)	0.004

Conclusions. Overall mortality of candidemia in patients with hematological malignancies remains high. The outcome of candidemia in patients with hematological malignancies may be improved by the early use of echinocandin on the first line of treatment and the removal of CVC.