

THE IMPORTANCE OF THE RECENT RESULTS OF THE CAPACITIVE HYPERTHERMIA (HT) ASSOCIATE WITH CHEMOTHERAPY IN TREATING INOPERABLE PANCREATIC TUMOURS: AN UPDATE.

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The latest medical studies about pancreatic adenocarcinoma show a remarkable increase in incidence, prevalently in the western countries. This kind of neoplasia afflicts especially masculine population and smokers, presenting a considerable incidence according to the increase of age.

Recent medical studies have pointed out to us that there is a correlation between pancreatic tumours and fats diets; debated the incident of consuming coffee. In general, obstructive icterus and pain associate to the involvement of retroperitoneali nerve fibres are symptomatic of head and body tumours. Frequently a poor digestion, in consequence of a bad state of the pancreatic enzymes synthesis, brings about taking off weight. Unfortunately the prognosis of this kind of neoplasia is unfavourable, patients come to survive less than 12 months. A lot of this kind of neoplasia are inoperable and often a treatment with chemotherapy and radiotherapy is not successful. A new treatment called capacitive hyperthermia (HT) shows antitumoral effects associate with a chemotherapy treatment based on new drugs. This treatment utilizes a modern and functional apparatus so that the patients have a good ability to tolerate it because of the short incidence of complications. In this updated work we want to make a detailed report on the action of the HT associate with chemotherapy, tested on a group of 25 patients suffering from pancreatic adenocarcinoma.

APPARATUS AND TREATMENT

APPARATUS: We used an RH equipment at 13.56 MHz endowed with liquid-cooled flexible antennas.

TREATMENT PERIOD: from 01/01/2001 to 28/02/2007.

TREATMENT: 3 cycles of treatment, every cycle is structured in 8 sessions of 45 minutes each on alternate days.

PATEINTS: a group of 25 patients suffering from inoperable pancreatic tumor (13 male and 12 female).

RESULTS

1. Patients who have undergone an palliative operation: 5
2. Patients who have undergone the chemotherapy: 22 (21 cases with Fluoruracile-Gemcitabina, 1 case with octreotide and interferon α -2b) .
3. Survival 12th month: 17 pts - 68%
4. Survival 18th month: 10 pts - 40%
5. Survival 24th month: 9 pts - 36%
6. Survival over 24th month: 7 pts - 28%

CONCLUSIONS

The application of capacitive hyperthermia therapy on this restricted group of patients has given out surprising results. The HT+ CHT can reduce the tumoral increase, can raise the survival of the patients and, above all, the HT can better the general conditions of those patients which are in keeping with this kind of treatment.