First-line therapy with Docetaxel and Gemcitabine in chemotherapy naïve metastatic breast cancer: A Phase II Study

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Abstract

Purpose: This phase II study of biweekly docetaxel and gemcitabine was performed to investigate the efficacy and safety of this combination in treatment of patients with metastatic breast cancer.

Patients and Methods: This study included 40 patients with previously untreated, stage IV breast cancer, the period between October 2008 and July 2011. Therapy consisted of 50 mg/m2 of docetaxel and 1500 mg/m2 gemcitabine, both administered on days 1 and 15 every 4 weeks.

Results: A total of 40 patients were evaluated by intention-to-treat analysis for efficacy and safety. The overall response rate (ORR) was 65% (complete and partial response, 10 and 55%, respectively). Non-hematological toxicity was more common than hematological toxicity, with alopecia and asthenia were the most frequently reported adverse events. Severe hematological toxicity was rare.

Conclusions: Biweekly docetaxel plus gemcitabine appears to be very effective and fairly well-tolerated regimen for the treatment of patients with metastatic breast cancer.