Patients’ perceptions about genomics profiling and immunotherapy

Cris Decat Bergerot, PhD
Postdoctoral Fellow
Department of Medical Oncology & Therapeutic Science
City of Hope Comprehensive Cancer Center
No disclosure.
My Brief Background

2004 - Started to work with cancer patients
2005 - CETTRO
   Started to conduct research
2007 - 2008
2009 - MSKCC
2010 - 2013 - PhD COH
2014 - 2016 - UNIFESP COH
2017 - Fellow COH

To develop and implement the first formal psycho-oncology service in Brazil
To conduct multiple research projects to translate and implement international standards
Translate new standards for patients
Patients’ Perception Studies

**Genomic Profiling**

**GOAL**
To assess patients’ knowledge, attitudes, and expectations of patients diagnosed with metastatic GU cancer regarding the Genomic Profiling

**MEASURES**
Survey: previous experience, beliefs, expectations and concerns regarding genomic testing
PROMIS Anxiety
PROMIS Depression
Functional Assessment of Cancer Therapy General (FACT-G)

**Immunotherapy**

**GOAL**
To assess patient’s perception of immunotherapy at two time points

**MEASURES**
Survey: general knowledge, beliefs, expectations and concerns regarding immunotherapy
PROMIS Anxiety
PROMIS Depression
Functional Assessment of Cancer Therapy General (FACT-G)
Patients’ Perceptions - Genomic Profiling (N=16)

PRESENT SITUATION
Control the disease (56%)
Fully active (62%)

KNOWLEDGE
Before: searched online (25%)
After: understand well informations (81%)

BENEFITS
Learn about their genes (81%)
Learn about family genes (62%)

HOPE (100%)
Treatment options (75%)
Better outcome (50%)
Chances of being cured (44%)

WORRIES
Feel anxious (25%)
Less treatable/more aggressive (37%)

TOP REASONS
#1 Guide course of treatment
#2 Predict outcome
#3 Reduce unnecessary treatment
Patients’ Perceptions - Immunotherapy (N=7)

**PRESENT SITUATION**
Control the disease (86%)
Fully active (71%)

**BELIEFS**
- Innovative option (100%)
- Fewer side effects (100%)
- Easier to administer (43%)
- Effect: few weeks/months (43%)

**EXPECTATION**
- Keep pace w the tumor (86%)
- Increase survival (86%)
- Control the cancer (71%)
- Prevent other cancers (43%)

**TOP BENEFITS**
- #1 Efficacy
- #2 Mechanism of action
- #3 Side effects/tolerability

**TOP BARRIERS**
- #1 Cost
- #2 Lack of knowledge
- #3 Efficacy data

**INCREASE KNOWLEDGE**
- #1 Physical education
- #2 Class information
- #3 Clinical trial data
In Summary...

- Patients are motivated with genomic profiling and immunotherapy
- Moderate general level of knowledge and understanding
- Further strategies (education and counseling programs) to better translate these advances
- To support, decrease anxiety and improve clinical decision making
Thank You!

International Genitourinary Oncology Congress