

A phase II study of paclitaxel in advanced breast cancer resistant to anthracyclines.

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Source

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Abstract

33 women with advanced breast cancer resistant to anthracyclines were treated with paclitaxel 175 mg/m² in a 3 h infusion every 3 weeks. The median age was 53 years (range 30-72) and the median performance status was 1 (range 0-2). 24 (73%) patients had visceral metastases while 22 (67%) had > or = two involved sites. 23 (70%) patients received anthracycline or mitoxantrone in an adjuvant setting and 21 (64%) for advanced disease. There were two (6%, 95% confidence interval (CI) 1-20%) complete responses (CRs) and 12 (36%, 95% CI 20-55%) partial responses (PRs). Median dose intensity of paclitaxel delivered was 58 mg/m²/week. Median time to progression was 24 weeks (range 4-61) and median survival was 41 weeks (range 8-66). Grade 3-4 toxicities included leucopenia (9%), stomatitis (3%), alopecia (91%), neurotoxicity (9%), infection (3%) and diarrhoea (3%). In conclusion, paclitaxel at a dose of 175 mg/m² exhibits significant activity in advanced breast cancer resistant to anthracyclines.