

Second line chemotherapy with 5 fluorouracil and vinorelbine in anthracycline and taxane pretreated patients with metastatic breast cancer.

[Razis E](#), [Kosmidis P](#), [Aravantinos G](#), [Bakoyiannis C](#), [Janinis J](#), [Timotheadou H](#), [Christodoulou C](#), [Fountzilias G](#).

Source

1st Department of Medical Oncology, Hygeia Hospital, 4 Erithrou Stavrou & Kifissias Av., 151 23 Athens, Greece. edrazis@hol.gr

Abstract

PURPOSE:

5-Fluorouracil (5-FU) and Vinorelbine (Vin) are active in the second line therapy of metastatic breast cancer (MBC). We conducted a multi-institutional phase II study to assess the activity of the combination of 5-FU and Vin in anthracycline and taxane pretreated patients with MBC.

PATIENTS AND METHODS:

Patients with MBC previously treated with anthracyclines and taxanes, who had measurable or evaluable disease, were treated with folinic acid 200 mg/m² IV, 5-FU 400 mg/m² IV bolus, and 5-FU 600 mg/m² continuous infusion over 24 hours on days 1, 2, 15, and 16 and Vin 25 mg/m² on days 1 and 15 of a 28-day cycle, for six cycles. Response rate, time to disease progression, overall survival, and toxicity were evaluated.

RESULTS:

Thirty-eight patients were enrolled and 35 were evaluable for response. Grade III and IV neutropenia was seen in four and three patients, respectively. At a median follow-up of 19.5 months, 33 patients have progressed, 14 during treatment and 19 during the follow-up period, and 23 have died for an overall survival of 12.3 months. The time to progression was six months. Eight patients had a partial response and 14 had stable disease for a clinical benefit rate of 63%.

CONCLUSION:

The combination of 5-FU and Vin is well tolerated and is a good option for the palliative care of patients with MBC.