A phase II study of the docetaxel-ifosfamide-carboplatin combination in advanced non-small-cell lung cancer.


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Abstract

PURPOSE:
In the present phase II study we evaluated the docetaxel-ifosfamide-carboplatin (DICb) combination in the outpatient setting in patients with advanced non-small-cell lung cancer (NSCLC).

PATIENTS AND METHODS:
Patients with advanced NSCLC (stages IIIB/IV), WHO performance status (PS) <2, and no prior chemotherapy were eligible. Chemotherapy drug doses were: docetaxel: 80 mg/m2, ifosfamide: 3.5 g/m2, and carboplatin at a target area under the curve of 5 (based on Calvert's formula), all on day 1, followed by prophylactic G-CSF.

RESULTS:
Fourty patients were entered and all are evaluable for response and toxicity: median age: 64 (48-72); PS: 1 (0-1); gender: 29 males/11 females; stages: IIIB: 13 (33%), IV: 27 (67%). Metastatic sites at diagnosis included: lymph nodes: 25; bone: 7; liver: 4; brain: 5; lung nodules: 13; adrenals: 6. Responses were as follows: 22/40 [55%; 95% confidence interval (CI), 54-81%] evaluable patients responded: 4 complete responses, 18 partial responses, 11 had stable disease, and 7 had progressive disease. The median response duration was 7 months (range 2-14 months), median time to progression 9 months (range 2-18 months) and median overall survival 11 months (range 3-46+ months). 1-year survival was 47.5%. Grade 3/4 toxicities included: neutropenia 28/40, with 12 developing grade 4 and 12% febrile neutropenia, thrombocytopenia grade 3: 3/40 and grade 4: 1/40, no grade 3 neuropathy, grade 1 CNS toxicity in 3, no renal toxicity, 8 grade 2 diarrhea and 4 grade 3 vomiting.

CONCLUSION:
In the present phase II study the DICb combination yielded important activity and good tolerability in advanced NSCLC.

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