

WEEKLY HIGH-DOSE CALCITRIOL AND DOCETAXEL IN METASTATIC ANDROGEN-INDEPENDENT PROSTATE CANCER

In Dr. Beer's phase II trial of Taxotere and Calcitriol in patients with androgen independent prostate cancer trial patients received:

- Calcitriol 0.5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$ po in 4 divided doses over 4 hours on D1
- Taxotere 36 mg/m² IV over 15-30 minutes on D2 for 6 weeks of an 8 week cycle
- Dexamethasone premedication-8 mg PO 12 and 1 hour prior to Taxotere
- Reduced calcium diet, <400-500 mg/day

Thirty-seven patients were eligible for the trial with a median age of 73 and median PSA of 99 ng/ml; 92% of patients had bone metastasis and 41% had measurable metastasis, all to the lymph nodes.

The median duration of therapy was 43 weeks and 11 patients remained on treatment at time of publication. In terms of efficacy, overall 81% of patients had at least a 50% decrease in PSA with the median time to reduction being 8 weeks. Over 20 patients had a decrease in PSA of at least 75%. Of the 15 patients with measurable disease, 8 had a partial response. And finally, the median



time to progression was 11.4 months and median survival was 19.5 months. Overall 1-year survival approached 90%.

The regimen was well tolerated. The primary grade 3/4 toxicities included leukopenia (41%) and neutropenia (24%). There were no cases of febrile neutropenia. The most common nonhematological toxicity was hyperglycemia which was seen in 24% and was considered an expected toxicity secondary to the 3-day dexamethasone premedication regimen. Other nonhematological toxicities included pneumonia in 8% and peptic ulcer in 11% of patients.

It was concluded, as you can see, that the combination has encouraging activity and a tolerable side effect profile. Additional trials evaluating this combination are ongoing.

**N=39
metastatic
AIPC**

EXTEND YOUR SUPPORT

REFER YOUR PATIENTS TO:

Livingwithit.org

ONLINE SUPPORT FOR PATIENTS LIVING WITH BREAST CANCER

Livingwithit.org

Even with a strong support system and a trusted healthcare team, a patient with breast cancer will often seek out information for resources and support programs.

This site was developed to support her during a difficult time – and when her illness affects so many other areas of her life.

RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO YOUR PATIENTS INCLUDE:

- Information on breast cancer issues, from early stage to metastatic breast cancer, including recurrence
- Access to customized information
- Recommendations for dealing with an expanding list of issues related to breast cancer (lifestyle, diet and exercise, medical issues, and more)

- Assurance that patient confidentiality will be maintained at all times. Patient information will never be divulged to any third-party sources.

The Web site builds on and expands the “Living with it” program, which offers similar information through printed materials available through the mail. Patients will receive a convenient “Things to Keep” binder filled with additional resources and information. **Patients can enroll online or by calling toll-free 877-LIVINGWITHIT (877-548-4649).**

Both the Web site and the mail program can offer support on living with breast cancer through information presented in a clear, easy-to-understand manner.

Please visit livingwithit.org to explore the valuable resources within. We hope you will find the site to be a valuable resource for your patients – and that you'll encourage them to register in the program and visit often.