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Clinical experience with immunotherapy in patients with diffuse intrinsic pontine glioma

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Abstract

The objective of the article is to report the case of three patients with diffuse intrinsic pontine glioma (DIPG) treated with immunotherapy. In particular we report the data related to the treatments' efficacy and tolerance. To achieve this, we review the medical records in the Paediatric Oncology and Haematology Unit of HM Hospitales/Centro Integral Oncológico Clara Campal (CIOCC). We focused on patients diagnosed with DIPG who were administered oncolytic viruses followed by immune checkpoint inhibitors (ICI) (pembrolizumab, anti PD-1) plus a concomitant antiangiogenic agent (bevacizumab). The results we obtained showed the three paediatric DIPG patients studied presented good tolerance, with disease stabilisation for approximately 5 months after immunotherapy. However, subsequent clinical worsening required clinicians to change the patients' treatment. In conclusion, immunotherapy combined with other conventional antineoplastic treatments (chemotherapy, radiotherapy) is postulated as a very promising future therapeutic option. However, further research is warranted in the paediatric population to demonstrate safety and effectiveness.

Keywords: Antineoplastic agents; CLINICAL MEDICINE; Case Reports; NEUROLOGY; PEDIATRICS.

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