

3749

High-dose Chemotherapy Followed by Reinfusion of Selected CD34+ Peripheral Blood Cells in Patients with Poor Risk Breast Cancer: A Randomized Multicenter Study

C. Chabannon, P. Viens, J. Camerlo, G. Gravis, C. Faucher, G. Novakovitch, K. Cometta, J.P. Lotz, J.P. Marolleau, C. Rosenfeld, I. Chabbert, P. Mannoni, D. Maraninchi, B. Mills, F. Oldham, D. Blaise

Institut Paoli-Calmettes, Marseille, France
Indiana University, Indianapolis, IN
Hopital Tenon and Hopital Saint-Louis, Paris, France
Texas Oncology, PA
Dallas, TX
Baxter-Healthcare, Immunotherapy Division, Irvine, CA, USA

As of July 1995, 27 patients with metastatic breast cancer were included in a multicenter prospective randomized study looking at the safety and efficacy of the ISOLEX® 300 SA device to select CD34+ cells from aphereses for clinical transplantation. Peripheral blood (PB) progenitors were mobilized with chemotherapy (in most cases cyclophosphamide 3g/m² and doxorubicin 75 mg/m²), and rhG-CSF (Neupogen®, Amgen, 300 µg/d or 5 µg/kg/d). Patients underwent apheresis when their PB CD34+ cell counts rose above 20/µl, and were then randomized to receive either unseparated PB cells (target number of cells to be collected = 2.5 × 10⁶ CD34+ cells/kg), or selected CD34+ cells (target number of cells to be collected = 5 × 10⁶ CD34+ cells/kg). Patients who were allocated to the study arm had an additional 1.5 × 10⁶ CD34+ cells/kg collected as a backup. Out of the 27 patients who signed the informed consent, 6 did not achieve adequate mobilization, and were therefore off-study. 11 patients went into the control arm, and 10 went into the study arm. CD34+ cells were selected using the ISOLEX® 300 SA device, according to the manufacturer's recommendations. Patients in the study group had on average 1.8 separations. 2 out of 10 patients in the study group were simultaneously infused with the selected cells and the backup, because the numbers of selected CD34+ cells were 1.01 and 0.43 × 10⁶/kg. An average number of 6.2 × 10⁶ CD34+ cells/kg and 4.9 × 10⁶ CD34+ cells/kg were cryopreserved and reinfused after completion of high-dose chemotherapy in the 11 control and 8 study patients respectively (not including the backup collection for the latter). Granulocyte and platelet recovery in the 8 patients who received only selected CD34+ cells was similar to hematopoietic recovery in the 11 patients in the control arm. None of these patients required reinfusion of the backup, and no side-effects were observed. We conclude that selected PB CD34+ cells support adequate hematopoietic recovery in breast cancer patients, although the use of this technology may be limited by poor mobilization in a proportion of candidates. Data on the detection of residual tumor cells and clinical outcome will be presented.

Transplantation in patients with solid tumors
Autologous PBSC transplantation
Transplantation: patients with breast cancer
Stem cell processing: CD34 cell selection