**gastrointestinal tumours, non-colorectal**

**COMPARISON THE EFFICACY OF SECOND LINE EOX AND FOLFIRI REGIMENS IN METASTATIC GASTRIC CANCER**

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**Aim:** Gastric cancer is often diagnosed in advanced stage. Palliative chemotherapy or best supportive care is recommended for patients with metastatic gastric patients. In several clinical trials palliative chemotherapy improved overall survival (OS) and disease free survival (DFS), but the survival benefit of second line chemotherapy was demonstrated in small cohort studies. The main aim of our study is to compare the efficacy of second line fluorouracil-folinic acid-irinotecan (FOLFIRI) and epirubicin-oxaliplatin-capacitabine (EOX) regimens.

**Methods:** Metastatic gastric cancer patients who progressed after completed modified docetaxel-cisplatin-fluorouracil (DCF) regimens were included. A total 105 patients were included to this study; 55 and 50 patients were treated with EOX and FOLFIRI regimens. The clinicopathological and demographic characteristics of all patients were collected from the medical charts. Kaplan–Meier survival analysis was carried out for DFS and OS.

**Results:** The median follow-up of our study was 15 (4-85) months. In both groups, all of the patient were treated with prior modified DCF. In our study, prior median DCF cycle was 4 (2-6) and 5 (3-8) in EOX and FOLFIRI groups, respectively. Median cycle of chemotherapy was 3 (1-8) and 3.5 (1-6) in EOX and FOLFIRI groups, respectively (P = 0.44). Median DFS was 5.3 months and 6.3 months (P = 0.91) whereas median OS was 6 and 7 months (P = 0.67) in EOX and FOLFIRI groups, respectively. Six months and 1-year DFS rate was 43.4% and 13.7% in EOX group; 54.7% and 11.3% in FOLFIRI regimen arms (P = 0.91). Six months and 1-year OS rate was 48.1% and 24.1% in EOX regimen; 53.8% and 29.3% in FOLFIRI regimen arms (P = 0.67).

**Conclusions:** Published trials and meta-analyses showed the efficacy of second-line chemotherapy in the treatment of metastatic gastric cancer, but the optimal treatment regimen was not still known. In our trial both platin based and irinotecan based second line chemotherapies showed similar efficacy in metastatic gastric cancer. Like irinotecan based regimens, oxaliplatin based regimens can be effective in the second line treatment of metastatic gastric cancer patients.

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