ABDOMINAL TUBERCULOSIS MIMICKING CARCINOMATOSIS

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Objectives To report an abdominal tuberculosis simulating ovarian cancer.

Methods The information has been obtained through review of medical records and review of the literature.

Results A 17-year-old female patient was admitted in the hospital due to fever, abdominal pain, ascites, and previous laparoscopy that evidenced carcinomatosis. Thorax CT was suggestive of Tim H, which has been participating in the Harmonization Committee. The committee has been challenging problems towards improving outcomes for patients. This review showed that operational harmonization is an essential component of successful international trials. The Harmonization Committee will continue to enhance high quality clinical trials for gynecologic cancer patients.

Conclusion With growing recognition of the importance of operational harmonization in international trials, more groups have been participating in the Harmonization Committee. The committee has been challenging problems towards improving outcomes for patients. This review showed that operational harmonization is an essential component of successful international trials. The Harmonization Committee will continue to enhance high quality clinical trials for gynecologic cancer patients.

IGCS19-0571

HERBAL CLINICAL AND RESEARCH ISSUES

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Objectives Allopathic practitioners in India are outnumbered by practitioners of traditional Indian medicine and homeopathy (TIMH), which is used by up to two-thirds of its population to help meet primary health care needs, particularly in rural areas. India has an estimated 2.5 million HIV infected persons. However, little is known about TIMH use, safety or efficacy in HIV/AIDS management in India, which has one of the largest indigenous medical systems in the world.

Methods The purpose of this review was to assess the quality of peer-reviewed, published literature on TIMH for HIV/AIDS care and treatment. Of 206 original articles reviewed, 21 laboratory studies, 17 clinical studies, and 6 previous reviews of the literature were identified that covered at least one system of TIMH, which includes Ayurveda, Unani medicine, Siddha medicine, homeopathy, yoga and naturopathy. Most studies examined either Ayurvedic or homeopathic treatments. Only 4 of these studies were randomized controlled trials, and only 10 were published in MEDLINE-indexed journals.

Results Overall, the studies reported positive effects and even “cure” and reversal of HIV infection, but frequent methodological flaws call into question their internal and external validity. Common reasons for poor quality included small sample sizes, high drop-out rates.

Conclusions Design flaws such as selection of inappropriate or weak outcome measures, flaws in statistical analysis, and reporting flaws such as lack of details on products and their standardization, poor or no description of randomization, and incomplete reporting of study results.

IGCS19-0720

DO DOCTORS THEMSELVES GET SCREENED FOR CERVICAL CANCER? - A QUESTIONNAIRE BASED STUDY FROM WESTERN RAJASTHAN (INDIA)

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Objectives To find out percentage of female doctors who have undergone screening for cervical cancer.

To assess knowledge and attitude for cervical cancer screening in female doctors.

To find out reasons for non-screening in those who never had any screening.

Methods This was a questionnaire based study done in female doctors of Jodhpur. After informing the purpose of study, printed questionnaire was given and asked to fill the data. Identity of the person was kept confidential. Questions comprised of whether they have themselves got screened, knowledge and attitude about screening and reasons for not getting themselves screened.
Abstracts

Results 440 forms were filled by doctors of various speciality. 50 forms were excluded as were incomplete, another 2 forms were from alternative system of medicine hence excluded.

Age of participants were 23 - 62 years, with majority belonging to 25–30 years and closely followed by 30–40 years age group.

85% doctors were aware about cervical cancer screening, however only 6% of doctors had ever got themselves screened. Only 1.5% doctors had screening in last 5 years.

Important reasons for non-screening were- feeling embarrassed 80%, very busy 65%,more than 1 reason was cited by 20%.

19% of doctors were unmarried and majority stated screening to be done after marriage. 9% stated screening not important for them.

Conclusions This study reflects satisfactory knowledge for screening; attitude of doctors reflects those of general population. Screening for cervical cancer cannot be successful if providers are not convinced for its importance and getting screened.

IGCS19-0436

INTEROOPERATIVE ELECTRON RADIATION THERAPY (IOERT) IN THE MANAGEMENT OF PATIENTS WITH LOCAL RECURRENT OR ADVANCED GINECOLOGIC MALIGNANCIES: A SIX CASE REVIEW

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10.1136/ijgc-2019-IGCS.453

Objectives To report outcomes and toxicities in women with locally recurrent or advanced pelvic gynecologic malignancies who received intraoperative electron beam radiotherapy (IOERT) after chemoradiation.

Methods From April 2012 to October 2018, 6 patients with recurrent cervical cancer (n=3), vagina (n=2) and endometrial (n=1) were treated with IOERT (stage IIb-IVb). Previously unirradiated (n=2) patients received preoperative chemoradia-
tion between 45–50.4Gy with cisplatin. Those who had already been irradiated (n=4) received 30Gy to pelvis with concomitant cisplatin. IOERT dose ranged between 10Gy–15Gy.

Results With a median follow-up of 55 months (range, 24–162) the 3-year overall survival was 100%. The median time from initial cancer diagnosis to recurrence treated with IOERT was 4.1 years (range, 1.4–10.3 years). Performed surgeries included pelvic exenteration (n=3) and posterior pelvic exenteration (n=3) with or without lymph node dissection. All surgeries had gross macroscopic resections and were classified as R0 (n=5; 83.3%) or R1 (n=1; 16.6%). All patients remain disease free. No major IOERT-related toxicities were reported.

Conclusions Radical resection combined with IOERT seems to be a valid curative treatment option for patients who have failed prior surgery and/or definitive radiation. The patient selection is crucial and in addition to consideration of disease related morbidity, other factors shall be considered including the time interval from initial therapy to recurrence and whether the patient is able to receive perioperative chemoradia-
tion and pelvic exenteration in addition to IOERT.

IGCS19-0048

FALLOPIAN TUBE CANCER

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10.1136/ijgc-2019-IGCS.454

Objectives The aim of the study was to investigate the rare type of malignant tumours of women’s genitals for identifying optimal methods of prevention, detection and special management of fallopian tube carcinomas.

Methods The rate of appearance of fallopian tube carcinomas varies between 0,13% and 2,8. During 48 years (1969–2017) 15707 operations of malignant tumours were performed at our clinic. Diagnosis of fallopian tube carcinoma was confirmed only in 56(0,36%) cases and every time during the operations. 18 patients (32,1%) underwent operations with the diagnosis of ovaries tumours; 12(21,4%) - with carcinoma corpus uterus and 26(46,4%) - with uterine and ovarian tumours. The youngest patient was 34, while the oldest - 78 years old. Patients were aged from 30 to 39 (5,5%), 18,2% were up to 40–49, 41,8% - from 50 to 59; 27,3% from 60 to 69 and 7,3% were over 70.

Results According to classification, offered by us, I stage was diagnosed in 19(33,9%) patients, II stage - in 58(9,9%); III stage - in 29(51,9%); IV stage - in 4(7,1%). The tactics of management of fallopian tube carcinoma is operation-chemo-

therapy or operation-radiotherapy, 49 patients underwent post-
operative chemotherapy, 7 patients had radiotherapy.

Conclusions The evaluation of remote results revealed, that of 56 patients 14 died within the first year following the operation. 5 years survival rate did not exceed 30%.Low incidence of fallopian tube carcinomas in some cases is explained by the fact that they are attributed to advanced forms of ovarian carcinomas.