CNS Disease Update: Glioblastoma (GBM)

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Objectives

- Review presenting symptoms and diagnosis of Glioblastoma
- Describe current treatment options of Glioblastoma
- Explain the role of bevacizumab in treatment of Glioblastoma
- Discuss novel pathways and future targets for treatment of Glioblastoma



Symptom	Incidence
Headache - often unilateral, throbbing	50%
Seizures	15-25%
Hemiparesis	30-50%
Cognitive changes	40-60%
Nausea/vomiting, gait abnormalities, urinary incontinence, aphasia, visual field defects	Variable















Radiation Types Intensity modulated radiation therapy (IMRT) Stereotactic radiosurgery (SRS) Brachytherapy IMRT preferred due to better targeting capability IMRT > SRS > brachytherapy









Question

LR undergoes a gross total resection of her mass and per pathology report, patient is diagnosed with a left frontotemporal GBM (WHO Grade IV). She is referred to a radiation oncologist for adjuvant chemoradiation. What dose of temozolomide (TMZ) should she receive with radiation (XRT)? After completion of radiation, what should be the next step in treatment?

- A. TMZ 50 mg/m2; continue TMZ 50 mg/m2 daily
- B. TMZ 75 mg/m2; change TMZ dosing to 50 mg/m2 daily
- C. TMZ 50 mg/m2; change TMZ dosing to 5-day (175 mg/m2)
- D. TMZ 75 mg/m2; change TMZ dosing to 5-day (150 mg/m2)
- E. Pt should not receive TMZ/XRT; initiate 5-day TMZ (200 mg/m2)

Temozolomide: Adverse Effects

Common AE

- Gl: nausea/vomiting, constipation
 Hematologic: lymphopenia, thrombocytopenia, anemia, leukopenia
- Non-hematologic: increased LFTs
- Constitutional: fever, myalgia
- Allergic reaction

· Clinical pearls

- Monitor ANC, platelet count at baseline and during treatment
- PCP risk prophylaxis required for all patients receiving concomitant temozolomide and radiotherapy

Temozolomide [package insert]. New Jersey: Merck; 2008

Temozolomide: MGMT

- O (6)-methylguanine-DNAmethyltransferase (MGMT) demethylates alkyl groups that are placed by temozolomide
- Low MGMT levels associated with better response to temozolomide
- Methylation of the promoter of the MGMT gene is associated with a better prognosis

Heigi ME., et. al. N Engl J Med 2005;352:997-1003











GBM Over-expresses Vascular Endothelial Growth Factor (VEGF) • GBM · Highly vascularized tumors · High levels of VEGF expression VEGF · Is the primary growth factor responsible for tumor angiogenesis · Targeting VEGF could lead to tumor cell

death and new treatment options in GBM

sai JC., et. al. J Neurosurg. 1995;82(5):864-73

Bevacizumab

- Mechanism
 - Monoclonal antibody to VEGF
- Dosing
- · 10 mg/kg IV q2weeks Common AE
 - Hypertension, fatigue, delayed wound healing, proteinuria, DVT/PE, stroke, heart attack, joint pain, GI perforation
- Clinical Pearl
- Cannot have invasive procedures (including dental work) for 4 to 6 weeks after discontinuation due to delayed wound healing
- Monitor CBC with dif, UA, and CMP routinely

















Question

LR is tolerating the 5-day temozolomide well with no AE and is now cycle 4, day 12 of treatment. She begins to experience the following symptoms: headaches, mainly in the morning when she wakes, and word-finding difficulties. Pt has an MRI and returns to the neuro-oncologists office for evaluation. Pts husband also notes that she has become more agitated recently. Brain imaging as well as clinical presentation both signify disease progression. Which of the following is not an appropriate treatment recommendation?

- A. Consider a clinical trial
- B. Initiate irinotecan with bevacizumab
- C. Continue 5-day temozolomide and add bevacizumab
- D. Change to metronomic temozolomide and bevacizumab
- E. Consider re-resection or additional XRT

Current Thoughts: Bevacizumab and Use in GBM

- Bevacizumab active against recurrent GBM
- Bevacizumab does not have a clear role in newly diagnosed GBM
- Bevacizumab resistance is critical to be evaluated in GBM and new treatment paradigms needed

Nagane M, et. al. Cancers 2013;5:1456-1468





Immunologic Therapies

- Vaccine therapy
- Dendritic Cell Vaccines
- EGFR-vIII Vaccines
- Oncolytic viruses
 - PVS-RIPO

PVS-RIPO: attenuated poliovirus vaccine

	Dendritic Cell Vaccines
	 Autologous dendritic cells (DCs)
	 Commonly used as antigen presenting cells
	Shown to activate Natural Killer (NK) cells, NK T cells
	Tumor antigen-loaded DCs
	 Injected into patient (intradermally)
	 Migrate to lymph nodes to activate tumor antigen specific cytotoxic T lymphocytes
	 Induce sustained anti-tumor response by forming immunological memory
Hedg	e M, et. al. Discov Med. 2014 Mar;17(93):145-54









	EGFR-vIII Vaccine Therapy
	Rindopepimut (CDX-110)
	 An injectable peptide vaccine against GBM tumors that express EGFR-vIII
	 Phase I, II clinical trials in GBM demonstrated significantly increased median time to progression, overall survival comparing rindopepimut to matched historical controls
	 Serious AE are rare, patients typically only experiencing hypersensitivity reactions at injection site
	Phase III placebo-controlled multi-center studies currently under investigation
	Babu R, et. al. Core Evid. 2012;7:93-103

EGFR-vIII Vaccine Therapy

Study

- Placebo-controlled, randomized, phase III study
 To investigate efficacy and safety of addition of rindopepimut to current standard of care (TMZ) in patients with recently diagnosed GBM
- Intervention
 - Two intradermal injections 2 weeks apart, followed by monthly injections until tumor progression or intolerance

Celldex Therapeutics. In ClinicalTrials.gov: NCT01480479 TMZ: temozolomide





Celldex Therapeutics. In ClinicalTrials.gov: NCT01480479













- Even with currently approved therapies survival rates for GBM remain poor
- Mainstays in treatment: temozolomide and bevacizumab
 - Challenge for new agents: ability to cross the blood brain barrier
- Bevacizumab resistance is critical for evaluation, new treatments are needed
- · Immunotherapy is focus of future studies





Self-Assessment Questions
 Which of the following is the first-line treatment for newly diagnosed Glioblastoma? a. Bevacizumab b. Irinotecan c. Temozolomide d. Lomustine e. Carboplatin

Self-Assessment Questions

Bevacizumab now has FDA approval for the treatment of newly diagnosed Glioblastoma?

- a. True
- b. False

Self-Assessment Questions

Vaccine therapy, such as Rindopepimut, uses the EGFR-vIII target as a novel treatment of Glioblastoma?

a. True

b. False