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A Multi-institutional feasibility study of S-1/oxaliplatin (SOX) plus bevacizumab in patients with advanced/metastatic colorectal cancer: HiSCO-02 prospective phase 2 study

Hiroshima Surgical group of Clinical Oncology –HiSCO-

Kazuhiro Toyota, Katsunori Shinozaki, Takao Hinou, Tsuyoshi Kobayashi, Manabu Shimomura, Masanori Yoshimitsu, Masahiro Nakahara, Yasuyo Ishizaki, Yuzo Hirata, Shinya Kodama, Yusuke Shimizu, Koji Kawaguchi, Masakazu Tokunaga, Daisuke Sumitani, and Hideki Ohdan

Background : 
mFOLFOX6 regimen, which is a standard regimen for metastatic colorectal cancer (CRC), is inconvenient owing to its requirement for continuous infusion via vascular access. We aimed to investigate the efficacy and safety of S-1/oxaliplatin (SOX) plus bevacizumab, a promising alternative treatment to replace mFOLFOX6.

Patients and methods : 
We undertook a clinical phase II trial in 12 institutions in Hiroshima, Japan. We enrolled individuals aged 20–80 years who had metastatic CRC, had an Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group performance status (PS) of 0 or 1, had assessable lesions, and had received no previous chemotherapy. Eligible patients were assigned SOX plus bevacizumab (S-1: 80-120 mg/body/day, day1–14 orally administrated, oxaliplatin: 130mg/m² day1 i.v., bevacizumab: 7.5mg/kg day1 i.v. q3w). The primary endpoint was response rate (RR), and the secondary end points were progression-free survival (PFS), overall survival (OS), and safety.

Results : 
From May 2011 to January 2014, 55 patients (mean age, 64 years) were enrolled. The number of metastatic organs were one: 29 cases (52.7%), two or more: 25 cases (45.4%), and 2 cases had no target lesions (3.6%). Median follow up time was 12.8 months (range, 1.4-38.6 months). RR was 45.4% (95% confidence interval (CI): 32.2-58.6%) and disease control rate was 87.3% (95%CI: 78.5-96.1%). Median PFS and OS time were 9.2 months (95%CI: 7.6-10.8) and 22.0 months (95%CI: 17.7-26.2), respectively. The median number of cycles of chemotherapy was 7 (range, 1-16). The median relative
dose intensity of oxaliplatin, S-1, and bevacizumab were 85%, 85%, and 87%, respectively. Major toxic effects (grade 3/4) were thrombocytopenia (5.7%), neutropenia (7.5%), sensory neuropathy (13.2%), and anorexia (17.0%).

**Conclusion:**
These data indicated that the SOX plus bevacizumab regimen is effective and well tolerated in patients with metastatic CRC.

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