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Conclusions: Patient's perspective is an important factor in management of a disease especially under unusual circumstances like COVID-19. It should be taken into account to help in making efficient management planning in future.

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1644P What is the attitude to new vaccines against COVID-19 in cancer patients?

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Background: Since January 2021 new vaccines against COVID-19 have been available in Italy. After the first step — reserved for medical staff — other categories have been involved in vaccination. Now we are going to vaccinate cancer patients in our Oncologic Department. Vaccine efficacy has been already proved and frail patients are considered at high risk for COVID-19 mortality, but are patients inclined to vaccination? Are they afraid? We proposed our patients a survey to understand their stance on vaccination and whether they would accept it.

Methods: From 3rd to 30th March, 2021 we submitted a survey to consecutive cancer patients in chemotherapy or immunotherapy for metastatic or neo/adjuvant treatment in order to know their attitude towards anti-COVID-19 vaccine.

Results: We have collected 213 answers to the survey. Many solid cancers were represented. The mean age was 64 years. 46% were male, 54% female. 9.8% of patients had a COVID-19 infection, 62% of them being symptomatic. Half of the participants took the anti-influenza vaccine during the last vaccination campaign, compared with 47% that vaccinate regularly every year. Most of the patients (90%) had drawn information about vaccines from the media, although only 20% consider these clear and exhaustive. 182 pts (85%) were ready to be vaccinated. 23 pts refused vaccine. On 15th April AIFA announced the suspension of AstraZeneca vaccine because of a suspected correlation between it and some deaths. We noted an increase of vaccination refusal after this event: 15% vs the previous 6%.

Conclusions: Adherence to anti-COVID-19 vaccine is high in cancer patients, higher than to anti-influenza vaccine. It could be related to a high perception of risk and fear that cancer care might be interrupted. The media had probably a significant contribution on that adherence as well as on the so called “vaccine hesitancy”.

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1645P Group psychotherapy in young female cancer patients during COVID-19 pandemic

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Background: Cancer patients are particularly vulnerable to the deleterious consequences of lockdown and social distancing. The psychosocial effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on this group are still unknown. Young female cancer patients need extra support in this unique situation. We want to explore if their quality of life could be affected by online group psychotherapy during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Methods: An online survey, EORTC QLQ-C30 was administered to a cohort of young gynecologic cancer patients. The questionnaire also incorporated questions about their specific diagnoses and current treatment. Inclusion criteria included female patients aged 18-45 who were diagnosed with cancer during the last 5 years. We asked selected patients to fill the survey twice, before and after group psychotherapy sessions. Online group psychotherapy was conducted for 3 consecutive months, three times per week, using the interactive ZOOM platform.

Results: Total of 25 patients aged 18-45 were included in the study, 17 patients were breast and 8 were cervical cancer patients. 52% were receiving hormonal therapy, remaining patients were receiving chemotherapy, radiation therapy targeted treatment, or was on follow-up. The scores of physical (82 vs 79.5) role (47.5 vs 51.6) emotional (73.8 vs 80) cognitive (47.5 vs 51.6) social functioning (47.5 vs 51.6) were different between pre and post psychotherapy sessions. In breast cancer group pre and post group psychotherapy results were significantly different with PF -p=0.0035,

RF - p=0.0035, EF - p=0.0073, CF - p=0.0035, SF p=0.0035 symptom scales/items - p=0.0035. In cervical cancer group pre and post group psychotherapy results were not significantly different; PF -p=0.4435, RF - p=0.3394, EF - p=0.4435, CF - p=0.3394, SF - p= 0.3394 symptom scales/items - p= 0.4435.

Conclusions: Our results show that young breast cancer patients' QoL can be positively affected by online group psychotherapy, but outcomes were not the same in the cervical cancer group. More research and larger sample size are needed for a better interpretation of results.

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1646TiP Efficacy of SARS-CoV-2 vaccination in cancer patients during treatment: A prospective observational study (ANTICOV trial)

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Background: Cancer patients (pts) have higher risk of serious COVID-19 symptoms, morbidity and mortality than general population. SARS-CoV-2 vaccine trials excluded patients with metastatic cancer or undergoing immunosuppressive therapies; therefore, the effectiveness of vaccines are unknown in this population. Hence, there is an urgent need to understand the correlation between cancer type, its treatment and vaccine efficacy.

Trial design: **Methods:** This is a prospective study conducted by the Oncology Unit of Cremona (Cr) Hospital, enrolling pts from Oncology, Hematology, Radiotherapy (RT) and Palliative Care divisions. The trial aims to evaluate effectiveness of mRNA vaccines [BNT162b2 (Pfizer) and mRNA-1273 (Moderna)], incidence of symptomatic COVID-19 infection, antibodies (Abs) response and onset of adverse events (AEs) in a consecutive population of 300 cancer pts, undergoing antineoplastic therapies, starting from March 2021. A vaccination point was set up by Cr Hospital, dedicated to cancer pts treated with chemotherapy (CT), TKIs, RT, hormones. Only pts in follow-up or treated with adjuvant hormone are excluded. CT was suspended at least 5 days before and 3 days after vaccination; targeted therapy, immunotherapy and RT are not interrupted. **Primary endpoint:** Number of symptomatic pts affected by COVID-19, diagnosed 7-60 days after the 2nd dose of vaccines. The infection is defined according to the FDA criteria combined with a positive nasopharyngeal swab. **Secondary endpoints:** Abs variation at different timepoints compared to baseline; vaccine-related adverse events; duration of abs, up to 12 months after 2nd dose; correlation between effectiveness of vaccines and antineoplastic treatments, tumor burden, PS ECOG. **Statistical analysis:** The primary objective will be tested by non-inferiority one-sample proportion test, compared with the value of 95% observed in the vaccine registration trials. The hypothesis of vaccine inferiority in the trial population is rejected if a rate of protection conferred by the vaccine is observed in 89% of the sample size. **Results** Preliminary results will be available in July 2021.

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