

Since January 2020 Elsevier has created a COVID-19 resource centre with free information in English and Mandarin on the novel coronavirus COVID-19. The COVID-19 resource centre is hosted on Elsevier Connect, the company's public news and information website.

Elsevier hereby grants permission to make all its COVID-19-related research that is available on the COVID-19 resource centre - including this research content - immediately available in PubMed Central and other publicly funded repositories, such as the WHO COVID database with rights for unrestricted research re-use and analyses in any form or by any means with acknowledgement of the original source. These permissions are granted for free by Elsevier for as long as the COVID-19 resource centre remains active. patients, including CD86 (2.8-fold increase in classic monocytes, $p{=}0.06)$ and CCR2 (2.9-fold in intermediate monocytes, $p{=}0.17;$ 11-fold in non-classic monocytes, $p{=}0.03).$

Conclusions: In cancer patients presenting with severe SARS-CoV-2 positive pneumonia, the infection may cause a hypercoagulable state, as suggested by higher levels of D-dimer, and unleash a pro-inflammatory response. Marked CD4⁺ T lymphocytopenia and NK expansion may reflect lymphocyte exhaustion and dysregulated cytotoxicity. Monocyte activation and recruitment also seem to be strongly upregulated.

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1768P Caring for cancer patients in the wake of COVID-19 pandemic in Georgia

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Background: On February 26, 2020, Georgia confirmed its first COVID-19 case. The Government of Georgia together with experts in the field work efficiently to prevent massive spread of the virus throughout the country. To better understand how Georgian regulations affected Cancer patient's ability to obtain proper healthcare, New Vision University initiated a survey which included questions about patients experiences accessing health care during COVID-19 pandemic, availability of appointments and services, and concerns about being able to safely obtain needed health care treatments. Non-cancer patients were also asked to fill the questionnaire to compare the results between the cancer and non-cancer patients during COVID-19 pandemic.

Methods: We collected the data from 3 large hospitals located in the main cities of Georgia: Tbilisi, Kutaisi and Batumi. Cancer and no-cancer patients who were admitted to above mentioned hospitals from March 1st till the April 30th for different elective and urgent reasons, excluding emergency cases were included. The survey was conducted anonymously, through telephone conversations, emails and social media according to respondents' preferences. Out of total 1025 patients, we obtained responses from 310 patients, out of which 150 were cancer and 160 – non-cancer patients. Statistical methods have been implicated for analyses of the results.

Results: From all cancer patients, only 24% reported delayed or cancelled care or treatment (overall), while 58% of non-cancer patients confirmed the delay or cancellation. The care/treatment was delayed due to government/hospital policy in 22% of cancer patients. In-person visits been changed to audio or video consultations in 12% cancer and 29% of non-cancer patients. 70% of cancer patients confirm that they felt safe at the hospital. Personal protective equipment was available for 63% of cancer and only for 18% of non cancer patients. Both group of patients stated decline in psychological/ symptomatic care during pandemic (47% and 42%) and problems in transportation to/from hospital (28% and 33%).

Conclusions: We can conclude that care of cancer patients during COVID pandemic in Georgia was delivered optimally and safely, in majority of cases treatment was conducted without delay or cancellation.

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1769P Impact of COVID-19 crisis on multidisciplinary tumour board treatment decisions: A cohort analysis from India

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Background: COVID-19 crisis has posed newer challenges in cancer care with reports of disruption in treatment plans coming from across the world. Massive deluge of COVID-19 incidence in western countries along with the increased risk of fatal complications for active cancer patients made it difficult for cancer patients to maintain continuity of care. In India, a countrywide stringent lockdown has prevented a massive exposure to the population. Here we present a retrospective analysis of the impact of COVID-19 crisis on the deliberations of onco.com online multidisciplinary tumour boards in past 8 weeks.

Methods: We analyzed 342 tumour board cases where an opinion was provided between 2nd week of March & 3rd week of May 2020. Disease characteristics like primary tumour type, stage, and ECOG PS were recorded. A keyword search for COVID-19, Coronavirus, lockdown, treatment delay was performed on the reports to

Results: Of the 342 cases, 48 patients were diagnosed with haematological malignancies & rest were solid tumors. 213 cases were being treated with curative intent, 92 patients were being treated with palliative intent & 37 cases had just completed staging evaluation and no treatment was started. We noted that the tumour board recommended a deviation from standard treatment protocol only for 18 cases on account of COVID-19. The rest of 324 cases received a recommendation to continue the standard treatment protocol for their disease condition. The reasons recorded for protocol deviation included patients with oral cavity cancer, metastatic cancer with poor performance status, and patients with multiple comorbidities where they feared a higher risk of complications.

Conclusions: Majority of oncologists in India prefer standard treatment recommendations in their decisions. This could be due to two main factors, a lower infection rate and a much lower case fatality rate (3.4%) from COVID-19 infection as compared to western countries. Still treatments have been delayed not due to change in protocols but due to the lockdown.

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Clinical and epidemiologic aspects of patients with cancer and COVID-19 in a Brazilian cancer center

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Background: Patients with cancer are more likely to develop infections due to a more fragile immune system as a consequence of the oncological treatment, increasing the chance of COVID-19 contamination and higher mortality. This study aims to evaluate the severity of COVID-19 infection in cancer patients, determining the clinical and epidemiological aspects that are associated with worse outcomes.

Methods: We examined the association between cancer patients diagnosed with COVID-19 and respiratory failure, need of Intensive Care Unit (ICU), and death in a medical center in the city of Sao Paulo, Brazil. We included patients with cancer in treatment or in followup that were infected by COVID-19 and excluded those diagnosed with cancer *in situ*, cutaneous squamous cell, and basal cell skin cancer. Active disease was defined as metastatic disease or less than 1 year of finished curative-intent treatment.

Results: Of 90 patients analyzed, the mean age was 56 years-old and 80% were female. Regarding histology, breast cancer represented the majority of cases with 35.6% and cervical cancer 21.1%. Overall, 51.6% were stage IV (55.6% with metastatic disease) and 43.3% of the patients had a good performance status when diagnosed with COVID-19. After initial hospitalization, 30 patients (33.3%) were sent to an ICU. Of the 90 patients initially followed, 34 died (37.7%). Metastatic disease and active disease were related to increased mortality (P=0.041 and P=0.006, respectively).

Conclusions: In this observational study with cancer patients and diagnosed with COVID-19, metastatic disease, and active disease were related to increased mortality. This analysis can help to select which patients may gain with increased isolation and even treatment interruption, reducing exposure to infection.

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