Gefitinib in second line treatment of metastatic or locally advanced synovial sarcoma expressing HER1: A phase II trial of EORTC Soft Tissue and Bone Sarcoma Group


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STUDY DESIGN

Eligibility criteria:
- Histological proven advanced or metastatic synovial sarcoma expressing HER1
- At least one previous line of therapy containing doxorubicin and/or ifosfamide
- Measurable disease (RECIST)
- PS 0-2 (WHO); age >= 18 years
- Normal hematological, liver and renal function

Treatment regimen:
- Iressa (Gefitinib), 500 mg/day, oral administration
- Duration: until progression, unacceptable toxicity or refusal

Dose and schedule modification:
- • Treatment interruption maximum: 14 days for each interruption
- • Dose reduction to 250 mg/day in case of recurrence; no dose re-escalation

Primary end-point:
- Disease evaluation: 12 weeks after start of treatment
- Success: CR, PR or SD at 12 weeks
- Failure: PD at 12 weeks or earlier

Statistical design:
- Simon optimal design
- P0=25%, P1=45% (EJC 38, 2002, p.543)
- α = 0.1

TREATMENT ADMINISTRATION

Dose and schedule modifications:
- • Treatment interrupted
- • Dose reduced to 250 mg/day in case of recurrence

SAFETY PROFILE

Although overexpression of HER1 enables to distinguish synovial sarcomas from other sarcomas in gene expression profiling experiments, an inhibitor of HER1 was found inefficient for the treatment of advanced refractory synovial sarcoma expressing HER1.