Gründung des Fleur Hiege-Centrums für Hautkrebsforschung

Feierliche Einweihung des Fleur Hiege-Centrums am 15.09.2022 in Hamburg
Fleur Hiege-Centrum für Hautkrebsforschung

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Prognostic value of von Willebrand factor levels in patients with metastatic melanoma treated by immune checkpoint inhibitors


ABSTRACT
Background: An increased incidence of thrombotic complications associated with an increased mortality rate has been observed under immune checkpoint inhibition (ICI). Recent investigations on the coagulation pathways have highlighted the direct role of key coagulatory proteins and platelets in cancer initiation, angiogenesis and progression. The impact of neutrophil- to- lymphocyte ratio (NLR), C-reactive protein (CRP) and von Willebrand factor (vWF) has been reported in previous studies. In this prospective cohort, coagulatory proteins and related parameters were assessed in patients with metastatic melanoma receiving immune checkpoint inhibition (ICI).

Methods: A prospective cohort of 83 patients with metastatic melanoma treated by immune checkpoint inhibitors was included. The study cohort was analyzed for baseline vWF, vWF dimers, ADAMTS13 activity, D-dimers, LDH, S100 and CRP at the beginning of treatment. Follow-up was performed at 6, 12 and 24 weeks after treatment. We investigated the impact of these parameters on clinical progression (progression-free survival (PFS) and overall survival (OS)) and treatment outcomes.

Results: Patients with melanoma treated by immune checkpoint inhibitors had significantly decreased vWF:Ag levels (µg/mL) vs 32.9 µg/mL; p=0.048) when compared with primary resistant patients. As for OS, we found an association with D-dimers, LDH, S100 and CRP at the beginning of treatment. We demonstrate that vWF:Ag levels measured at the beginning of the treatment provide a prognostic value for response to immunotherapy. We also report different evolution patterns of vWF:Ag levels over the treatment course that differ according to patient response to therapy. Therefore, we unveil a