

Direct Collaboration Of A Multidisciplinary Tumor Board And Supportive Care Department For Patients With Advanced Cancer

Marina D. Calamac*, Fedja Djordjevic¹, Natasa Lazin¹,
Jelena Dimitrijevic¹, Snezana Bosnjak¹

¹Institute for Oncology and Radiology of Serbia (IORS), Belgrade, Serbia

MASCC/ISO Annual Meeting on Supportive Care in Cancer, June 25-27, 2020 Seville Spain

Introduction

- Symptom burden is frequently present in patients with advanced cancer.
- Symptom management guided by patient's self-report of symptoms improves symptom control, quality of life and prolongs overall survival.

Aim

- To evaluate the model of a direct collaboration between the Multidisciplinary Tumor Board (MTB) and the Supportive Care Department (SCD) at the IORS aiming to improve the control of symptoms in patients with advanced cancer.



Methods

- From November 2018 to December 2019, MTB referred advanced cancer patients with significant symptom burden to the outpatient service of the SCD
- ESAS¹ was used to assess the symptom burden
- Severity of symptoms was evaluated initially and after the supportive care team intervention

¹Edmonton Symptom Assessment System

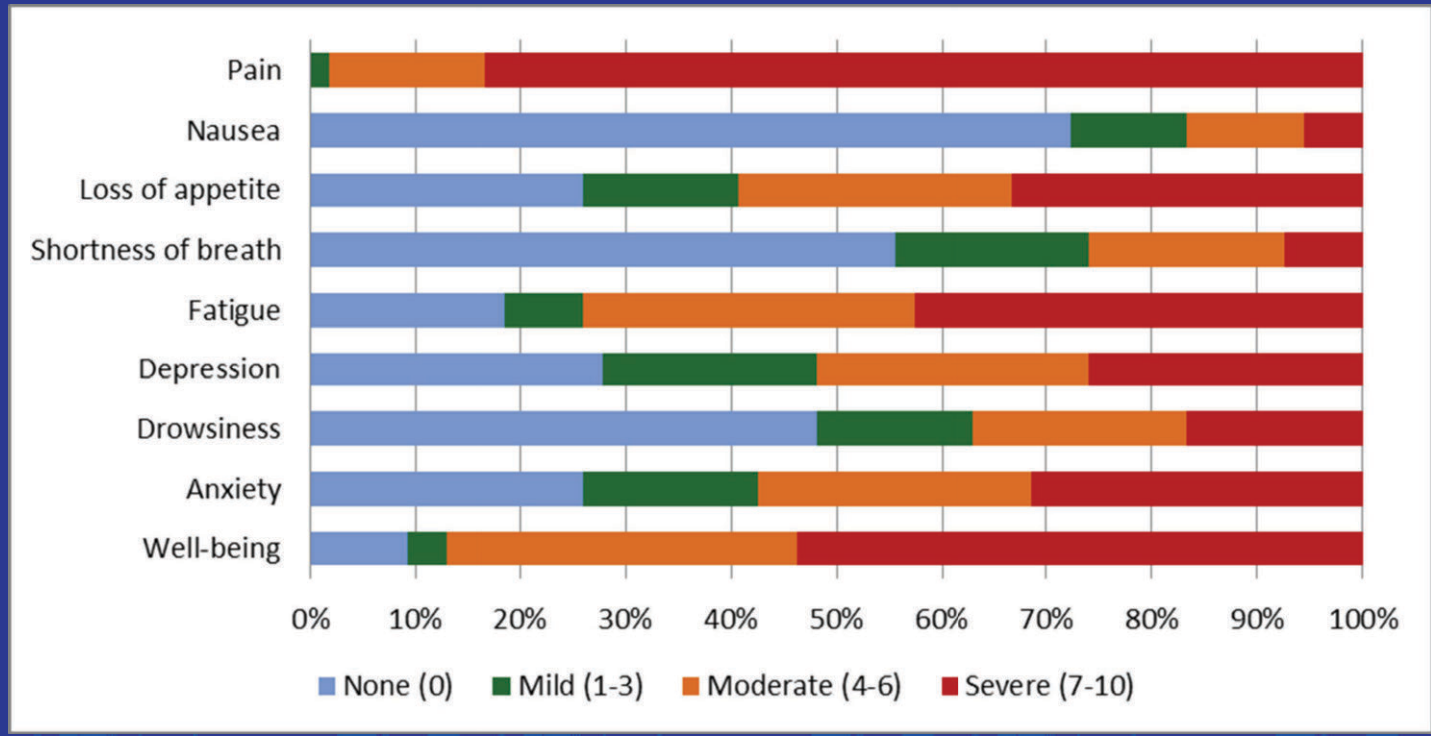


Patients' characteristics (N=54)...

Patients characteristics		Frequency	N	(%)
Gender	Male		23	(42.59)
	Female		31	(57.41)
Age (median)			65 (range 35-85)	
Performance status	0		5	(9.26)
	1		16	(29.63)
	2		17	(31.48)
	3		15	(27.78)
	4		1	(1.85)
Disease site				
Respiratory			5	(9.26)
Gastrointestinal			13	(24.07)
Breast			8	(14.81)
Genitourinary			15	(27.78)
Sarcoma			2	(3.70)
Hematopoietic/lymphatic			2	(3.70)
Melanoma			2	(3.70)
Unknown primary site			6	(11.11)
Thyroid cancer			1	(1.85)



Cancer-related symptom scores at the moment of admission to the outpatient service of the SCD...



.....Cancer-related symptom scores at the moment of admission to the outpatient service of the SCD

- Severe pain was the most frequent reason for referral.
- In addition, more than 50% of patients reported moderate-severe loss of appetite, fatigue, depression, anxiety as well as moderately to severely impaired well-being.



Symptom control after the SCD intervention

- Clinically meaningful ($\leq 30\%$) pain relief was reported in 34/54 (62.9%) patients
- The improvement of well-being was reported in 32/54 (59.25%) patients



Conclusions

- For advanced cancer patients with heavy symptom burden the direct collaboration between MTB and supportive care team has improved symptom management and is necessary for patient-centered care.

