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Chemotherapy-Induced Secondary Amenorrhea in Breast Cancer Patients in Ghaem and Omid Hospitals

Abstract

Introduction: The objective of this study was to investigate the impact of chemotherapy-induced secondary amenorrhea in breast cancer patients and its relationship to number of therapy courses and type of chemotherapy agents.

Methods and Material: This descriptive cross-sectional study was done during eight years in oncology department of Ghaem and Omid Hospitals of Mashhad University in 1997-2005. Trial group were 120 pre menopausal patients. That menstrual cycle status during treatment and in follow-up periods in these selected patients was recorded. These patients divided into three groups. For first group chemotherapy agents of cyclophosphamide, metothexate and fluoroucil (CMF) recommended; versus the second group, who used cyclophosphamide, adriamycine and fluoroucil (CAF), and the third group, who received adriamycine and cyclophosphamide (AC). None of these patients used tamoxifen. In evaluation different criteria included: menstrual cycle status before and after chemotherapy, incidence of secondary amenorrhea and correlation between amenorrhea with types and courses of chemotherapy agents. Statistically analysis using SPSS software was performed and T-Test and 2 was used for comparative evaluation and $p < 0.05$ considered significant.

Results: Data of 120 patients was defined that the age of 58.3% of them were < 40 years old. Majority of pathological type of breast cancer patients were ductal carcinoma (89.3%). The most common type of chemotherapy regimen was CMF, CAF and AC. Chemotherapy induced secondary amenorrhea established in 74.1% of patients; this finding was more common in patients > 40 years old. According to statistics, the incidence of amenorrhea in CMF group was 72.5% and in CAF group was 71.4% and in AC group was 83.4% ($P=0.6$). The average number of chemotherapy courses in CMF group was 6.2 ± 2.6 , in CAF group 7.2 ± 0.6 and in AC group 6.4 ± 0.5 ($P=0.3$). Duration of amenorrhea was between 2.3-4 years, but this data was not statistically significant.

Conclusions: In pre menopausal patients with breast cancer receiving cytotoxic chemotherapy against tumor cells, amenorrhea due to ovarian failure may happen.

Key words: Breast cancer, Amenorrhea, Chemotherapy

آدرس:

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