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Title: Therapeutic management of non-small cell lung cancers in Tunisia

Hamida 22178 Kwas kwassmedecine@yahoo.fr MD , Imen 22179 Elmjendel imenelmjendel@gmail.com MD , Ines 22180 Zendah dr.zendah@gmail.com MD , Amel 22181 Khattab amelkkk@rocketmail.com MD and Habib 22182 Ghedira ghedirahabib@gmail.com MD . ¹ Department of Pulmonary I, Abderrahman Mami Hospital, Ariana, Tunisia .

Body: Introduction: Lung cancer is a public health problem in Tunisia. Its incidence in 2010 was 27.4 per 100,000 inhabitants. Aim: To study therapeutic strategies of NSCLC in our patients. Patients and Methods: Retrospective study including 106 patients treated for non small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) between January 2003 and December 2011. Results: The adenocarcinoma was the predominating histologic type (39 %), followed by non small cell cancer whose type was difficult to determine (29 %), squamous carcinoma (28 %) and sarcomatoid carcinoma (4 %). The cancer was classified: stage IV (60 %), stage III (24 %), stage II (8 %) and stage I (8 %). Two patients underwent surgical resection alone. Eleven patients underwent surgery with neoadjuvant or adjuvant chemotherapy. Fifteen patients were treated by radiotherapy associated with chemotherapy. Chemotherapy was administered alone in 54 cases. The other patients had only symptomatic treatment. Chemotherapy was based on cisplatin plus Gemcitabin (46 cases), plus Vinorelbine (28 cases) and plus Pemetrexed (6 cases). For patients not operated on, tumor has regressed (6 cases), remained stable (16 cases) and progressed (32 cases). Eighteen patients received second-line chemotherapy. The third line chemotherapy was indicated in 8 patients. Median survival was 7 months for patients without surgery and 30 months for those who had surgery. Conclusion: Lung cancer is diagnosed at an advanced stage in more than 50% of cases, which limits treatment options. This makes us insist on the importance of anti-smoking strike.