

ATEZOLIZUMAB IN OUR PATIENTS WITH METASTATIC BLADDER CANCER: A SINGLE CENTER EXPERIENCE

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Introduction - Purpose : Objective: We aimed to report early follow-up and treatment outcomes of our patients with metastatic bladder cancer who underwent first step platinum-based treatment with humanitarian early access program.

Methods - Tools : Materials and Methods: Five patients with bladder cancer who underwent atezolizumab therapy in our clinic in 2017 were studied retrospectively.

Findings : Findings: 2 (%) of the patients were female, 3 (%) were male and the median age was 63 years (range 55-75). Pathologic diagnosis was high grade invasive urothelial carcinoma in all patients. Male patients were smokers while female patients had no smoking history. All of the patients were at the metastatic stage before treatment and showed progression after the 1st step platinum-based treatment. Patients were evaluated with pet-ct before and after 3 cycles of treatment. One (20%) of the patients developed immuno-related pneumonitis on day 14 of cure 1 and the patient died. Treatment was interrupted in one (20%) patient due to the development of a flare effect (pseudoprogression) in the lung after the 2nd cure treatment. In 3 patients (60%) no side effects were observed and 3 cycles of treatment were completed. When the treatment results were evaluated, partial response was obtained in one patient with complete response in 2 patients.

Discussion : Results: Atezolizumab is an effective treatment option in our metastatic bladder cancer patients. As for the immunological side effects, we believe that patients should be followed up more closely, especially in the first cycle. According to the early evaluation data, it was seen that the drug was well tolerated.

Keywords: Atezolizumab, bladder cancer, flare effect