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Patient acceptability and efficacy of simeprevir and sofosbuvir in hepatitis C after allogeneic stem cell transplantation

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Introduction: The treatment goal of chronic hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection is sustained virological response (SVR) and the combination of simeprevir (SMV) and sofosbuvir (SOF) has been well tolerated in various studies. The study aimed to assess the patient acceptability and response to SMV-SOF in allogeneic stem cell transplant.

Objective: To assess the physical and mental health related quality of life (HRQoL) before during and after treatment using EQ-5D-5L instrument. To assess the sustained virologic response (SVR).

Methods: Sixty patients were included in our study with HCV genotype1 using a combination of SMV-SOF for a fixed period of 12 weeks. The EQ-5D-5L questionnaire and visual analog scale (VAS) were given to calculate coefficient's utility. Utility EQ index was calculated and statistical analysis were performed.

Results: The mean age of the cohort was 55 years with 61% males. The SVR for intent to treat was 78% and relapse rate of 14%. The per protocol SVR was 84% and relapse was 13%. The VAS score was positive indicating a better quality of life. Post treatment EQ index was statistically better in group that received SMV and SOF.

Conclusions: Addition of SMV and SOF was more tolerable and effective in allogeneic stem cell transplant patients. There was only minimal interaction with the immunosuppressive drugs. The EQ index values are also higher in the dual regimen.

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