

Clinical response after sorafenib for hepatocellular carcinoma in elderly patients: a report of two cases

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ABSTRACT

Among primary liver cancers occurring worldwide, hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) is the major histological type accounting for 70-85% of all cases. Phase III trials in patients with advanced HCC treated with sorafenib (SO), a multitargeted tyrosine kinase inhibitor, showed significant improvements in both overall and progression-free survival. We report the cases of two elderly patients with advanced HCC who had prolonged stable disease following treatment with SO (400 mg bid). Patient 1 was treated with SO for a period of 16 months until evidence of right sacral metastases was noted. Patient 2 received SO 400 mg bid from January 2009 to October 2009 until radiological evidence of disease progression was noted. Both patients experienced minimal toxicity, suggesting that SO can be safely administered to elderly patients.

Key words: advanced hepatocellular carcinoma, targeted therapy, sorafenib, tyrosine kinase inhibitors, elderly.

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