



BioMed Research International

Special Issue on

Adjuvant Treatment for Breast Cancer in the Elderly: New Perspectives in the Era of Multidisciplinary

CALL FOR PAPERS

Breast cancer is the most common oncologic female disease and the main cause of death among women overall. Several trials evidenced how a lower treatment burden approach may warrant a satisfactory disease control rate and, at the same time, a favourable impact on elderly patients' quality of life, that is a fundamental endpoint in the management of a potential fragile patient.

Basically, the survival of patients seems to be mainly influenced by the biology of the breast cancer rather than the age of the patient; therefore, to tailor treatments will be more and more a fundamental key point. However, the best multidisciplinary approach is still not clarified.

Although a therapeutic option is widely used in the elderly, endocrine therapy is undoubtedly characterized by a wide range of toxicity (i.e., gynaecological, osteoporosis, cardiovascular events, and depression). Safety profile of these drugs can affect the delicate balance of these patients and, consequently, their quality of life that should be always primarily considered in treatment choice.

Randomized trial for older patients showed how less adjuvant radiation therapy (i.e., partial breast irradiation, omission of radiation) for highly selected patients warranted an equivalent disease control with respect to standard treatment. In order to reduce radiation related adverse events, during the last decades many technical improvements have been made. Intensity modulated radiotherapy (IMRT), image-guided radiotherapy (IGRT), and active breathing control (ABC) systems are just few examples.

Many attempts in order to limit toxicity events from adjuvant approaches have been studied in terms of supportive care in cancer treatments. However, there is the strong necessity of new trials investigating a low burden of treatment approach for favourable patients.

This special issue is intended to present and discuss all the aspects of different adjuvant treatments approach for elderly patients, focusing on multidisciplinary and quality of life.

Potential topics include, but are not limited to:

- ▶ Low burden treatment approaches
- ▶ Endocrine therapy (tamoxifen, aromatase inhibitors)
- ▶ Safety and toxicity of adjuvant treatments
- ▶ Impact of adjuvant treatments on patients' quality of life
- ▶ Immunotherapy
- ▶ Supportive care in the elderly
- ▶ Follow-up program in the elderly (fit and unfit patients)
- ▶ Partial breast irradiation
- ▶ Omission of adjuvant therapy in selected patients
- ▶ Radiotherapy technical development (dose distribution to the target volume and normal tissue avoidance; IMRT; arc-therapy; helical Tomotherapy; IGRT; ABC; hypofractionated radiotherapy; and simultaneous integrated boost)
- ▶ Costs analysis

Authors can submit their manuscripts via the Manuscript Tracking System at <http://mts.hindawi.com/submit/journals/bmri/oncology/atbc/>.

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