

Methods: Patients who visited The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center ED between January 1, 2011 and December 31, 2015 were identified retrospectively. Patients with revisits were defined as patients who revisited the ED within 72 h after the initial discharge. General patient characteristics, presenting chief complaint(s), comorbidities, and cancer type data were collected. The association between each of the variables and revisit was determined using univariate and multivariate logistic regression models.

Results: Of the 46,576 eligible patients with ED visit, 3041 (7%) revisited the ED within 72 h. Top cancer types for patients with revisit were breast, lung, leukemia, sarcoma, and lymphoma, while the top five chief complaints were pain, fever, nausea/vomiting, headache/dizziness, and weakness/fatigue. Younger age and more comorbidities were associated with significantly higher revisits (odds ratio [OR] 0.99; 95% confidence interval [CI] 0.99–1.00; $p < 0.001$ and OR 1.02; 95% CI 1.01–1.04; $p = 0.003$, respectively). Sarcoma patients and patients presented with fever had the highest association with revisits (OR 1.93; 95% CI 1.62–2.30; $p < 0.001$ and OR 1.72; 95% CI 1.56–1.90; $p < 0.001$, respectively).

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Conclusions: Cancer patients who visited our ED were evaluated. Risk factors that were associated with the occurrence of revisits within 72 h of their initial discharge, including general characteristics, presenting complaint, and cancer type were identified. Further study that includes larger number of patients can help identify more factors, including more cancer types. Other chief complaints that had fewer numbers of patients, such as altered mental status, shortness of breath, and diarrhea, can also be investigated in future.

□ MYSTERY BEHIND THE OUTCOME OF FEBRILE NEUTROPENIA IN INDIGENT CANCER PATIENTS: A “U-TURN” IN MORTALITY THROUGH A STATE-SPONSORED SCHEME IN INDIA



Background: Febrile neutropenia is among the most common symptoms of oncology patients presenting to the emergency department (ED). Timely antibiotic therapy is key to successful management. Little is known, however, about the extent of this problem in cancer patients in developing countries, especially those who live below the poverty line. We utilized a statewide database, Dr. NTR Vaidyaseva Trust, to report on the status of care for febrile neutropenia in the State of Andhra Pradesh, India.

Methods: We conducted a retrospective, observational, descriptive, exploratory study of cancer patients who received chemotherapy under the state-sponsored scheme and presented with fever/febrile neutropenia from April 2014 to April 2018. Demographic, clinical, and outcomes data were retrieved from the Dr. NTR Vaidyaseva Trust, Government of Andhra Pradesh,

India (the state-sponsored scheme) database. Inclusion criteria were: an absolute neutrophil count < 500 cells/mm³ or expected to be < 500 cells/mm³ within the next 48 h and an annual income $< 60,000$ rupees (approximately \$833) for the rural population and $< 100,000$ rupees (approximately \$1388) for the urban population, based on an exchange rate of \$1.00 = 72 rupees.

Results: During the study period, 223,404 patients were treated with chemotherapy; of these, 1607 (0.72%) were admitted to the ED with febrile neutropenia, with 1234 (76.79%) coming from the rural population and 373 (23.21%) from the urban population. Males outnumbered females by a small margin (1.08:1.00). Hematologic and solid tumor malignancies were represented equally, at 817 (50.84%) and 790 (49.15%), respectively. The average absolute neutrophil counts for hematologic and solid tumor malignancies were 360 and 470, respectively. The median day of febrile neutropenia presentation following chemotherapy was 11. The average duration of hospital stay for patients with hematologic vs. solid tumor malignancies was 13 days vs. 7 days, respectively. Death from febrile neutropenia occurred in 7.28% of patients.

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Conclusions: In a developing country like India, where most of the population is rural, living below the poverty line, and lacking knowledge about modern medicine, a state-sponsored scheme like the Dr. NTR Vaidyaseva Trust is vital for helping patients overcome oncologic emergencies like febrile neutropenia, where the risk of death and costs of treatment are higher if not treated promptly.

□ ASSOCIATION OF CANCER-RELATED FACTORS AND VENOUS THROMBOEMBOLISM IN PATIENTS PRESENTING TO THE EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT OF A COMPREHENSIVE CANCER CENTER



Background: Cancer patients have several risk factors that account for their higher incidence of venous thromboembolism (VTE) compared to the general population. Being a leading cause of death among ambulatory cancer patients, proper diagnostic approach for cancer patients presenting to the emergency department (ED) for the evaluation of suspected VTE is essential. Optimized diagnostic approach for these patients is critical and can improve patient outcomes. Here, we investigated the extent to which cancer-related factors can be used as predictors of VTE in the ED.

Methods: We retrospectively analyzed all patients who visited The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center ED between September 1, 2011 and January 1, 2013 and who had D-dimer measurement for suspected VTE. Clinical and cancer-related data were collected. The presence or absence of VTE was determined by reviewing the imaging reports. Univariate and multivariate analyses were performed to determine the association between cancer-related factors and VTE.

Results: Of the 1684 patients with suspected VTE identified, 389 (23%) had VTE. The majority of the patients (87%) had a cancer type that is classified as low risk using Khorana cancer risk stratification. One thousand and sixty-nine (64%) patients had advanced-stage and 1112 had active cancer. Univariate analysis revealed that cancer type, stage, and status are all significant predictors of VTE. Cancer diagnosis within 1 year of the ED visit was significantly associated with the occurrence of VTE (odds ratio [OR] 1.83; 95% CI 1.46–2.32; $p < 0.001$). Similar results were observed in the multivariate analysis after adjusting for age, race, and sex. Patients with very-high-risk cancer type had higher chance of having VTE compared to the low-risk cancer group (OR 3.39; 95% CI 2.06–5.60; $p < 0.001$). Nevertheless, Khorana risk groups could not discriminate between high-risk and low-risk cancer types ($p = 0.126$). Advanced cancer stage and active cancer were also significantly associated with the occurrence of VTE (OR 1.56; 95% CI 1.02–2.45; $p = 0.046$ and OR 1.33; 95% CI 1.00–1.78; $p < 0.05$, respectively).

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Conclusions: Using data from cancer patients evaluated for suspicion of VTE, we have successfully identified cancer-related risk factors that can help in the prediction of VTE in cancer patients presenting to the ED. Expanding our study with a larger number of patients will help to validate these results and allow inclusion of more cancer-related factors, such as metastatic sites and treatment regimens in multivariate analysis. Modification of the risk grouping of cancer types can also be investigated because the Khorana risk grouping of cancer types failed to achieve good discrimination between low-risk and high-risk cancer groups.

□ CANCER PAIN MANAGEMENT IN THE EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT: A RETROSPECTIVE COHORT STUDY



Background: Cancer pain has historically been very difficult to manage. Despite targeted initiatives by oncologists aimed at increasing the awareness of cancer pain, improving the documentation of pain, and improving pain medication regimens, some patients continue to have significant breakthrough symptoms and therefore seek additional care in the emergency department (ED). Unfortunately, the ED has classically struggled with providing appropriate pain management in the general population. Therefore, patients with cancer who are already at risk for inadequate analgesia may be at particular risk for poor pain management when they present to the ED.

Methods: We conducted a retrospective cohort study evaluating all adult patients with active cancer presenting to the ED with a pain-related chief complaint from June 1, 2012 to December 31, 2015. This was conducted at two academic EDs that were both associated with a National Comprehensive Cancer Center–designated cancer center. We recorded type of pain medications administered, time to analgesia (bed to medication), type of cancer, Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group (ECOG) perfor-

mance status, pain scores, and location/type of pain. Our outcome variables included Δ pain (final pain score minus initial pain score), final pain score, ED disposition, and return ED visit within 72 h. Descriptive statistics are reported and we utilized bivariate logistic regression to evaluate differences in time to analgesia.

Results: We enrolled 483 patients with active cancer who presented to our study EDs with a pain-related chief complaint. The cohort was 53.8% female, 60.3% non-Hispanic white, and had a median ECOG score of 1. These patients had solid tumors predominantly (87.3%), with the most common cancer being breast, followed by colon and liver. The median time to analgesia was 71.5 min, and i.v. hydromorphone 1 mg was the most common first analgesic (54.9%). Only 11% of patients who required additional analgesia received an escalated dose. Most (51.3%) patients in the cohort received only one dose of pain medication. Of the 483 patients enrolled, 233 (48.2%) received a primary pain-related ED diagnosis, the most common was abdominal pain (35.6%), followed by diffuse/non-specific pain (19.7%) and musculoskeletal (MSK) pain (17.2%). Patients with MSK pain had the highest final pain scores (mean 5.63) and the least improvement in pain (mean $\Delta -2.1$), though patients with diffuse/non-specific pain were most likely to be admitted (58.7%). Patients who had a delay in analgesia (> 180 min) were more likely to be admitted vs. those who received analgesia in < 30 min ($p = 0.048$). Overall, 39.3% of patients were admitted, with 13% of the discharged patients requiring a second visit within 72 h (48.6% of which were admitted on this second visit).

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Conclusions: The management of pain in patients with active cancer has classically been very difficult, and this appears to be true in the ED setting as well. Overall, we encountered significant delays in analgesia, as well as underdosing. MSK pain appeared to be particularly difficult to manage, while diffuse/non-specific pain led to the highest percentage of admissions. Those patients who encountered long delays in analgesia were significantly more likely to be admitted. We hope that these results will help target future interventions to improve the care of cancer pain in the ED.

□ SPONTANEOUS AORTIC THROMBOSIS IN THE ONCOLOGIC POPULATION: A SINGLE-CENTER EXPERIENCE



Background: Spontaneous aortic thrombosis (SAT), defined as new-onset aortic mural thrombosis without underlying atherosclerosis or aneurysmal degeneration, is uncommon and multifactorial in patients with active oncologic diagnoses. Malignancy-related hypercoagulability and platinum-based chemotherapy have been linked to SAT, however, data are limited. Additionally, optimal management for these patients is unclear.