

Treatment with Panitumumab in Patients with Metastatic Colorectal Cancer with Hypersensitivity Reaction after Cetuximab Treatment

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Background: Cetuximab and panitumumab are monoclonal antibodies (mAb) – EGFR inhibitors, for chemotherapy of patients with KRAS wt metastatic colorectal cancer (mCRC). Cetuximab, as mAb can cause a hypersensitivity reaction. In case of severe hypersensitivity reaction, further therapy with cetuximab is contraindicated. Safety of panitumumab in patients with a previous severe hypersensitivity reaction with cetuximab is not fully known. We present three patients with KRAS wt mCRC who received panitumumab without hypersensitivity reaction after experiencing severe hypersensitivity reaction to cetuximab.

Methods: All patients received oxaliplatin and irinotecan based chemotherapy for mCRC. The patients received standard dose of panitumumab (6 mg/kg) after experiencing grade 3 hypersensitivity reaction to standard treatment with cetuximab. All patients developed hypersensitivity reaction during first dose of cetuximab.

Results: All patients were with an average age of 59 year with no history of prior allergy. First patient received panitumumab for 2 months, second patient was treated for 4 months, and third patient had a stable disease following 5 months of therapy.

Conclusion: Our results confirm data previously reported which shows cutaneous manifestation in patients with mCRC treated with EGFR inhibitors. Hypersensitivity reaction is serious complication associated with treatment with mAbs. Our report of three patients successfully treated with panitumumab after they had severe hypersensitivity reaction to cetuximab warrant further investigation