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Abstract Submission FORM

COMPARISON OF AAOMS STAGE AND SIPMO-SICMF STAGE IN MRONJ PATIENTS. THE EXPERIENCE OF A MULTISCIPLINARY TEAM

SECTION: 5B

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Background. An American Association Oral Maxillofacial Surgery (AAOMS) task force released a definition (and a staging system) of Medication-Releated Osteonecrosis of Jaw (MRONJ), based on clinical features (mainly bone exposure for at least 8 weeks, or – only after 2014 - bone to be probed through a fistula) but both definition and staging system are questioned by many experts¹. A team supported by the Italian Societies of Oral Medicine (SIPMO) and Maxillofacial Surgery (SICMF) suggested adoption of imaging tools (mainly Computed Tomography, CT) together with clinical features^{2,3} to reach diagnosis (also in suspected cases without bone exposure, classified in the so called "Stage 0" according to AAOMS) and to evaluate real disease extension.

<u>Patients and methods.</u> To compare the stage of MRONJ cases at the first observation time in patients receiving antiresorptive therapy (bisphosphonates, denosumab), according to two different staging systems, we reviewed charts and CT scans of patients with signs of MRONJ and a history of:

GROUP A) metastatic cancer and myeloma patients and

GROUP B) osteoporosis and other non-malignant diseases.

Results. We reviewed data of 124 MRONJ patients (98 GROUP A, 26 GROUP B), observed at Alessandria Hospital by a MRONJ multidisciplinary team, with 177 MRONJ sites (80 patients with one site; 35 with two sites; 9 patients with three sites). GROUP A: The AAOMS stage was 0/I/II/III respectively in 37/12/33/6 sites (10 not reported). The SIPMO-SICMF stage was I (involvement of only alveolar bone at CT scan)/ II (extended to extralveolar bone)/ III (complicated case) respectively in 19/64/11 sites (4 not available).

GROUP B: The AAOMS stage 0/I/II/III was respectively in 6/3/14/2 sites (1 not reported). The SIPMO-SICMF stage was I/II/III respectively in 4/15/6 sites (1 not available).

In the two groups, 58 AAOMS "stage 0" sites (with signs/symptoms and without bone exposure, formally out of AAOMS definition) were reclassified as stage I (15) or II (38) or III (5) respectively, according to SIPMO/SICMF

Conclusions.

In cancer and myeloma patients as well as in osteoporosis patients the AAOMS definition and the correlated staging system appear inadequate, potentially exposing patients to delayed diagnosis (and possibly delay of treatment planning, for example adequate surgery). The diagnosis and staging should be based not only on clinical data but also on the findings of the maxillofacial region CT scan (to be performed immediately in case of suspected disease), since the CT offers larger information about extent and severity of the disease.

REFERENCES:

- 1. Bedogni et al. Qeios 2023 at www.qeios.com/read/PBUJ6Z
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