



Near Complete resolution of Advanced Breast Cancer in a 35-Year-Old Woman with Septicemic Shock A Case Study

Background: A 35-year-old woman was referred to a cancer hospital (Art of healing Cancer) specializing in advanced cancers due to a large fungating breast mass filled with pus. The patient was in septicemic shock, and initial CT scans suggested metastatic disease with spread across the local breast, axilla, lungs, infraclavicular/supraclavicular/bilateral cervical/paraaortic lymph nodes, and chest wall. Bilateral pleural effusion was also observed, along with minimal urine output.

Management: Due to the severity of the patient's condition, the management was divided into two phases. In phase 1, the patient was admitted to the ICU to stabilize her body functions. After stabilization, a toilet mastectomy was conducted to remove the fungating mass, and a flap was pulled from the back to cover the area. However, while the patient was recovering from surgery, the surgical area around the stitches started getting skin metastases, leading to the immediate initiation of phase 2 - cancer treatment.

We decided to treat the patient in 2 Phases

Phase 1: Recover from Septicemic Shock

Phase 2: Cancer Treatment

Treatment Regimen Used with Doses

Day 1

- i. Intravenous (IV) Vitamin C 25 to 50 g in 500ml NS over 1 hr
- ii. IV Artesunate 60 to 120 mg in 100ml NS over 15 to 30 min
- iii. IV Nab-Paclitaxol 80 to 100mg (depending on weight and height)
- iv. IV Carboplatin 120 mg to 150 mg (depending on weight and height)

Day 2 and Day 3

- i. Tablet (Tb) Curcumin (Liposomal Curcumin) 1 g BD/TDS (depending on LFT)
- ii. Tb EGCG 1g BD
- iii. Tb Berberine 500 mg TDS
- iv. Tb Quercertin 1g BD
- v. Tb AKBA 60 mg OD

Day 4

- i. IV Vitamin C 25 to 50 g in 500ml NS over 1 hr
- ii. IV Artesunate 60 to 120 mg in 100ml NS over 15 to 30 min
- iii. 6 – 8 hrs break and then complete rest of the doses of:
- iv. Tb Curcumin (Liposomal Curcumin) 1 g BD/TDS (depending on LFT)
- v. Tb EGCG 1g BD
- vi. Tb Berberine 500 mg TDS
- vii. Tb Quercetin 1g BD
- viii. Tb AKBA 60 mg OD

Day 5 & Day 6 – Similar to Day 2 & Day 3

Day 7 – Will be the start of the next cycle, similar to Day 1

The above regimen was followed for 18 weeks, i.e., 6 cycles (1 cycle = 3 x 1 week). After completion of 3 cycles of chemotherapy, the patient continued with natural supplements, and she was administered high dose IV Vitamin C and Artesunate twice a month.

Outcome: After the completion of chemotherapy, PET CT scans showed a significant reduction in metabolic activity, size, and number of previously visualized nodular soft tissue densities in various regions.

As compared with the previous PET CT study on 13.08.2022, there is:

- Significant reduction in metabolic activity, size, and number of previously visualized nodular soft tissue densities in the right anterior chest wall, right axillary, and intermammary regions.
- Non-visualization of subcutaneous nodular soft tissue density in the right posterolateral chest wall.
- Metabolic resolution of the right infraclavicular and bilateral supraclavicular lymph nodes with reduction in the metabolic activity and size of bilateral cervical and left axillary lymph nodes.
- Previously visualized bilateral lung nodules and increased FDG uptake in relation to the right 7th rib are no longer visualized.
- Previously visualized subcutaneous thickening and stranding in the right posterolateral chest wall along surgical clips remain largely unchanged.
- Previously visualized left paratracheal lymph nodes remain largely unchanged.
- Resolution of bilateral pleural effusion.

At present there is lot of data supporting the role of HDIVC and artesunate in enhancing the cytotoxic effect of chemotherapy, boosting the immune system and decreasing the adverse effects of chemotherapy. Natural supplements helped in weakening the cancer by increasing apoptosis, decreasing angiogenesis & metastasis. For e.g. curcumin upregulates p53; EGCG, Beberine, Quercetin, downregulates VEGF, AKT-MTOR, MDR-MRP respectively.

The chemotherapy is completed, the patient is on maintenance regime of Natural supplement and twice monthly HDIVC & Artesunate. Since the treatment is self-funded, her resources are limited for

which we have advised her to get the next PET CT after 6 months. Meanwhile she is back to work and wants to live her life to maximum.

Conclusion: The management of advanced breast cancer in a 35-year-old woman with septicemic shock was challenging, but the two-phase approach and the use of high-dose IV Vitamin C, Artesunate, and natural supplements in phase 2 showed promising results. The case highlights the importance of individualized treatment plans and the need for close monitoring and clinical correlation to ensure the best possible outcome for patients with advanced cancers.

Clinical Correlation is advised.