Psychosocial aspects and therapeutic approaches of Chemotherapy-induced alopecia

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Chemotherapy-induced alopecia (CIA) is a condition that can have profound psychosocial and quality-of-life consequences. It occurs with an estimated incidence of 65% and can result in depression, anxiety, a negative body image and lowered self-esteem. The fear of hair loss can make some patients refuse treatment or choose regimes with less favorable outcomes. An individualized approach and support is very important to all patients. In order to prepare the patient physically and emotionally, options such as head wraps, hats or wigs should be discussed in advance. CIA is traditionally categorized as acute diffuse hair loss caused by dystrophic anagen effluvium; however, it can presents with other clinical patterns of hair loss and in some cases progress to permanent alopecia, changes in color and/or texture of regrown. The ability of individual agents to cause hair loss depends upon the route, dose, and schedule of drug administration. It is known that combination chemotherapy regimens are more likely to result in alopecia than are single agents. Therapeutic approaches include physically decreasing the amount of drug delivered to the dividing hair bulb by reducing scalp blood flow and also pharmacologic and biologic interventions to block the effects of the chemotherapy. Multiple agents such as topical minoxidil, AS101 (ammonium trichloro (dioxoethlyene-O,O'-) tellurate), alpha tocopherol, inhibitors of cyclin-dependent kinase, Inhibitors of p53, Biologic response modifiers, topical cyclosporine, Interleukin-1 and topical calcitriol are being investigated to treat CIA and been will be discussed in this speech.

Biography

Katlein Franca is a Brazilian medical doctor. Specialist and Master's of Science in Dermatology. Post Doctoral Research Associate of the Department of Dermatology & Cutaneous Surgery of the University of Miami Hospital. Author of the book "Dermatology & Doctor Patient relationship" (published in 2012, Brazil- Juruá pub). Fellow in Cosmetic Medicine, department of Otorhinolaryngology University of Miami Hospital. Fellow in Clinical Dermatology & Cutaneous Surgery, in the department of Dermatology & Cutaneous Surgery, University of Miami Hospital (2011). Invited speaker of international conferences. Author of several publications and papers; enthusiastic about dermatological research. Member of: Brazilian Society of Hair Studies. European Academy of Dermatology & Venereology, Ibero Latin American College of Dermatology.

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