

JOINT EVENT

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Joint action nurse – doctor detecting adverse events and resistance in patients treated with hydroxy urea ruxolitinib as an alternative option

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Polycythemia vera (PV) is a myeloproliferative disease characterized by an increase of erythrocytes that leads to an increase of red blood cell mass. There are several treatments to face the disease, among others, treatment with hydroxy urea. The objective is to determine the nurse role in the following up of patients treated with hydroxy urea in order to be able to early detect adverse events and resistance. By means of literature collection from different clinical databases (PubMed, MEDLINE, Bio Med Central, Science, Cinahl) and with keywords: nursing, polycythemia, hydroxy urea intolerance, hydroxy urea resistance, hydroxy urea adverse events; we have collected 28 papers related to this field. Nowadays, hydroxy urea is the first choice in patients with high risk disease, although 24% of patients can develop hydroxyurea adverse events or resistance. The most common adverse events related to the treatment with hydroxyurea are cardiovascular events, oral and skin ulcerations, vaso-occlusive pain, acute chest syndrome, avascular necrosis, retinopathy, and poor quality of life. In case of hydroxyurea resistance, treatment is not effective for patients with PV, and are in risk of thrombosis, hematologic diseases like myelofibrosis and/or acute myeloid leukaemia/myelodysplastic syndrome. In case of intolerance and/or resistance or acute adverse events, ruxolitinib (tyrosine kinase inhibitor) is usually the alternative. Nursing role in this clinical field is very important detecting in an early way possible complications or resistances related to this treatment in order to get first hand information to doctor in charge of patient's treatment.

Biography

Victor J Costela Ruíz has completed his Bachelor's at the University of Granada and he is now enrolled in a Predoctoral contract in the Faculty of Health Sciences at the University of Granada. He has several Bachelor's degrees (Social Work, Anthropology, Criminology and Nursing) and Master's degrees in Anthropology and in Nursing Emergencies. He also works directly with the Hematologist Unit of the General Hospital of Granada.

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