Visible effect of immunomodulatory drugs on rib tumor in multiple myeloma

Kenji Shinohara

ABSTRACT

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CASE REPORT

A 76-years-old female was diagnosed with multiple myeloma, immunoglobulin G (Ig-G), λ type. There was not involvement of the rib at the time of initial presentation. She was initially treated with bortezomib, 1.3 mg/m² once weekly, for five months, with the effect of lowering IgG. However, it was stopped due to peripheral neuropathy. Anemia, bone pain including pain at the rib tumor (Figure 1), renal impairment, and an increase in IgG appeared nine months later (Table 1). She was treated with lenalidomide and dexamethasone (DXA) for two weeks, which were stopped due to skin eruption, and subsequently with pomalidomide and DXA for two months, and a visible therapeutic effect of a tumor size decrease (Figure 2), as well as markedly lowering IgG and bone marrow plasma cells (Table 1), were observed.

DISCUSSION

Plasmacytoma of the rib is observed as solitary or a tumor after progression of multiple myeloma. It was hitherto treated with surgical resection, radiation, systemic chemotherapy before or after surgical resection including alkylating agents, anthracyclines, vinca alkaloids, steroids, and bone marrow transplantation [1–3]. In last decade, the treatment of multiple myeloma has greatly improved by the introduction of novel agents, including proteasome inhibitors (PI) and immunomodulatory drugs (IMiDs) [4]. In the present

Figure 1: A rib tumor, 5.9x4.1 cm, demonstrated by computed tomography scan.

Figure 2: The rib tumor disappeared, almost 0 cm, after the administration of immunomodulatory drugs (IMiDs), including lenalidomide and subsequently pomalidomide with dexamethasone.

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Table 1: Laboratory data before and after administration of immunomodulatory drugs

	Before	After
Total protein (g/dl)	10.4	6.0
Alb (g/dl)	2.2	3.4
Glb (g/dl)	8.2	2.6
γ-Glb (%)	53.2	
IgG (mg/dl)	6355	1138
Bone Marrow		
Plasma Cell (%)	50	10
BM FCM		
CD38 (%)	41	
CD 38 gating		
cy k-ch (%)	85.3	
CD 33 (%)	9.5	
CD 45 (%)	41.2	
CD 49e (%)	10.0	
CD 54 (%)	94.6	
CD 56 (%)	97.3	
CD 138 (%)	17.1	
MPC-1 (%)	10.1	

patient remarkable effect on rib tumor was observed after administration of IMiDs. These novel treatments should be tried before surgical resection.

CONCLUSION

A visible effect on a rib tumor in multiple myeloma was observed on administration of the recently developed immunomodulatory drugs.

Keywords: Immunomodulatory drugs (IMiDs), Multiple myeloma, Rib tumor

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Kenji Shinohara – Substantial contributions to conception and design, Acquisition of data, Analysis and interpretation of data, Drafting the article, Revising it critically for important intellectual content, Final approval of the version to be published

Guarantor

The corresponding author is the guarantor of submission.

Conflict of Interest

Authors declare no conflict of interest.

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