


12th SIOG Conference

Developing Geriatric Oncology in low and middle income countries.

What should we do first?



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Developing Geriatric Oncology in low and middle income countries

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Conflict of Interest Statement
None Declared

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- The Elderly comprise a Rapidly increasing treatment population that have undergone and are undergoing physiological changes associated with ageing, including declining renal function and decreasing reserve in multiple organ systems.
- 85% of the world's population lives in low and middle income countries, but there are far fewer cancer facilities in these countries than in the rich world.
- 70% of cancer deaths are in low and middle income countries because access to care is extremely poor and expertise of all kinds is very limited.

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- The Major Problem
The high cost of chemotherapeutic agents in the third world.
- The Key
The great majority of elderly cancer patients live in Europe and Japan.
- In the Future – 2050 – Great problem around the world, because it is increasing elderly cancer patients in - South America
- Central America and
- India
- We must offer cancer care without limit of age – It is a target of UICC world cancer declaration.
- It is necessary the divulgation of the clinical practice recommendations of SIOG about cancer treatments in elderly patients, around the third world.
- Special attention to:
 - Colon Cancer
 - Lung Cancer
 - Breast Cancer
 - Brain Tumors

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- Chemotherapy and Radiotherapy in elderly cancer patients must be the same of young patients.
- The great problem in Brazil and others countries of the third world:
 - Few schools of medicine with medical oncology as discipline.
 - Few residency programmes in medical oncology.
 - Cancer centers in great cities only
 - The quality of cancer treatment in the public service
 - Judicialization in order to achieve the right of new medicines in cancer treatment, for instance, the Mibs and Mabs.
 - Few clinical studies of new drugs in elderly patients.
 - No recognition of the geriatric oncology as sub-speciality

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- Breast Cancer – Elderly Patients in older patients, the Aromatase Inhibitors (AI) are preferred to tamoxifen because of the lower risk of increased thrombosis and endometrial cancer.

- The Major Problem
In the public service the women dont receive the AI, Tamoxifen only.

- The wrong solutions
 - Send CT Scanners
 - Linear Accelerators
 - Expensive targeted therapies

- The main problem in the third world
 - Most patients are diagnosed too late

- The solution is simple interventions
 - Introduce tobacco control
 - Improve Healthcare structures
 - Ensure prompt diagnosis
 - Use locally appropriate protocols with surgery, radiation therapy and cheap and well – established chemotherapy drugs

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Conclusion

Yes, we can treat cancer even in the poorest countries – says Ian Magrath- INCTR President



Thanks for everything
See you in Rio de Janeiro

- Soccer world cup
- Olympic Games

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