DSM-TPCE (TRANSPULMONARY CHEMOEMBOLIZATION) OF NON-SMALL CELL LUNG CANCER (NSCLC) IN THE LEFT HILAR REGION



Author: **Thomas J. Vogl, MD** Johann Wolfgang Goethe University Frankfurt/Main, Germany



Patient

- 62 year old male
- Confirmed unresectable NSCLC (non-small cell lung cancer) in the left hilar region, disease stage T3 N1
- Prior treatment:
 - Bronchoscopy, histological prove
 - 8 courses of systemic chemotherapy using carboplatin and etoposide, partial remission
- After 3 months recurrent tumor growth on the left side
- Comorbidities:
 - Cardiac insufficiency grade 1-2
 - Slight dyspnea due to emphysema
 - Clinical contraindications for lung resection
- Lab parameters: CEA 23 ng/ml | Thrombocytopenia 60,000/µl
- Tumor board decision: DSM-TPCE with Mitomycin, Gemcitabine, and Cisplatin



Figure 1: Baseline CT in lung window showing left hilar lesion measuring 4.3 x 3.6 cm



Figure 2: Baseline CT in soft tissue window



TPCE procedure

- 3 sessions of TPCE (transpulmonary chemoembolization) procedures were performed in an angiographic suite in a four-week interval
- Under local anesthesia, the pulmonary artery was accessed via femoral venous approach using a 5-French headhunter catheter under fluoroscopic guidance
- After diagnostic pulmonary angiography, tumor-supplying pulmonary artery branches were selectively catheterized
- This selective catheterization results in obstruction of the arterial supply, with resultant regional ischemic necrosis of tumor while minimizing damage to the normal lung parenchyma
- Bolus injection of the chemotherapeutic agents (10 mg Mitomycin, 500 mg Gemcitabine, 50 mg Cisplatin) was performed, followed by embolization with 5–10 ml of Lipiodol® (Guerbet) and **200–450 mg** of degradable starch microspheres (EmboCept® S DSM 50 μm, PharmaCept GmbH)



Figure 3: Angiography image during TPCE



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Outcome

- Patient experienced no adverse events, with dismission after 24 hours, without any pain or periprocedural complications
- The patient received three consecutive TPCE procedures in one-month intervals
- 3-month CT follow-up showed a partial response
- Post-procedural tumor markers: strongly declining, CEA 5 ng/ml | Thrombocytopenia 90,000/µl



Figure 4: CT after first chemoembolization showing a decrease to 2.5 x 2.6 cm



Figure 5: CT after third chemoembolization showing a decrease to 1.2 x 1.3 cm



Outlook

• Further transpulmonary chemoembolization procedures will be conducted in case progressive tumor size is apparent



CONCLUSION

- EmboCept[®] S DSM 50 μm is an easily administered embolizing agent
- Because of the temporary nature of its occlusion, DSM-TPCE can be repeated several times
- This case shows impressive efficacy of TPCE with degradable starch microspheres in lung cancer
- TPCE is a very safe and well-tolerated procedure since no side effects or non-target embolization appeared
- EmboCept® S DSM 50 µm is safe and effective to use in TPCE

DSM Degradable Starch Microspheres TPCE Transpulmonary chemoembolization

PharmaCept GmbH, Bessemerstr. 82, 12103 Berlin, Germany

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