EP03.01

Characteristics and one-year follow-up in patients referred to cancer patient pathway for patients with non-specific symptoms and signs of cancer

Sara Falk Jensen(1), P Ravn(1), SThorsen(1), S Westring Worm(2)

- (1) Department of Lung and Infectious Diseases, North Zeeland Hospital, Hillerød, Denmark
- (2) Department of Lung and Infectious Diseases, Rigshospitalet, Copenhagen, Denmark

Corresponding author: Miss Sara Falk Jensen, North Zeeland Hospital, Department of Lung and Infectious Diseases, Hillerød, Denmark. E-mail: sarafalkjensen@hotmail.com

Background: in 2012 a new cancer patient pathway for patients with non-specific symptoms and signs of cancer (NSSC-CPP) was introduced in Denmark, in the capital region of Denmark implemented by forming 4 outpatient clinics, one situated at North Zeeland Hospital (NOH). Little is known about patients referred to the NSSC-CPP. The primary aim of this study was to find the prevalence of cancer and one-year mortality, describe the population and the investigational course and find factors associated with cancer diagnosis in patients referred to the NSSC-CPP.

Method: A single centre cohort study including patients with at least one visit at the NSSC-CPP at NOH. Study period covering 1st October 2013 to 31st September 2014. Data based on retrospective reviews of the electronic patient files. Descriptive statistics were made to describe the population. Logistic regression was used to identify factors associated with cancer diagnosis. Multivariate analyses adjusted for age, gender, smoking status and alcohol consumption. Kaplan-Meier survival plots at one-year follow-up.

Results: 825 patients included with an average age of 67 years, 47.4% were male. Prevalence of cancer within one year was 16.4% (138/825). 70.3% (97/138) solid cancers, 29.7% (41/138) hematologic cancers. During the investigational course 76.7% went through diagnostic imaging (ultrasound, CT, PET/CT or MRI). Anaemia (OR1.63 CI1.02-2.60), leucocytosis (OR 2.06 CI 1.34-3.15), thrombocytopenia (OR 4.13 CI 2.02-8.47) and LDH (OR 1.64 CI 1.07-2.52) and CRP above references (OR 2.56 CI 1.66-3.95) were associated with a cancer diagnosis. No symptoms were significantly associated with cancer diagnosis. One-year mortality for those diagnosed with cancer was 44.2% and 3.3% for those with no cancer.

Conclusion: The prevalence of cancer matches other NSSC-CPP's in Denmark. High one-year mortality is seen amongst patients with cancer. Deviations in basic biomarkers should raise awareness for the GP or investigating physician and lead to further investigations.