A major response to trabectedin in metastatic malignant fibrous histiocytoma of the vertebra: a case report and review of the literature

María Sereno1, María Merino1, Cristina Aguayo2, Susana Hernández3, Gerardo Gutiérrez-Gutiérrez4, Francisco Zambrana Tévar1, Miriam López-Gómez1, César Gómez Raposo1, and Enrique Casado-Sáenz1

1Oncology Department, Infanta Sofía University Hospital, Madrid; 2Oncology Department, De Henares Hospital, Madrid; 3Radiology Department, and 4Neurology Department, Infanta Sofía University Hospital, Madrid, Spain

ABSTRACT

Malignant fibrous histiocytoma is an aggressive tumor, the most common soft-tissue sarcoma of adult age. It is usually located in the extremities and retroperitoneum, and very rarely there is skeletal involvement. Surgery is the preferred treatment in early disease; in advanced disease, chemotherapy is the main therapeutic strategy. We present a 25-year-old female patient diagnosed with a vertebral mass in T5 with a severely compromised spinal cord. She underwent surgical decompression and the pathological findings were consistent with malignant fibrous histiocytoma. After several surgical treatments she had pulmonary progression and was therefore started on chemotherapy. She had a very poor response to most of the administered regimens until she initiated trabectedin 1 mg/m² every three weeks. She showed a significant improvement with a major response of the lung metastases. This report indicates that trabectedin is an active drug in advanced, previously treated metastatic malignant fibrous histiocytoma.

Key words: malignant fibrous histiocytoma, trabectedin.

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Correspondence to: María Sereno Moyano, Oncology Department, Infanta Sofía Hospital, Europa 34 Av, San Sebastián de los Reyes, 28702 Madrid, Spain. email mariasereno75@gmail.com

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