Never Too Old to be DAA Treated for Hepatitis C

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1. Background & Aims

- Elderly patients were seldom treated for HCV in the IFN era due to side effects of treatment.
- IFN-free DAA therapy has minimal side effects making treatment feasible for many more patients, including the elderly.
- We report demographic and outcome data on all patients over 75 years of age who were treated for HCV with DAA therapy in 3 Canadian clinics.

2. Methods

- All HCV-infected patients greater than 75 years treated with DAAs without IFN were included.
- Information on demographics, treatment and outcomes were collected at 3 Canadian sites (Ottawa, Edmonton and Brampton).

3. Results

- 78 patients were included in the analysis. Patients were female (63%) with a mean age of 79 (SD 3.5, range 75-88 years; 36% were ≥ 80 years) and Caucasian (56%).
- Seventy (90%) were treatment naive, 35% were genotype 1b-infected, 18% with genotype 1a, 22% with genotype 2, 6.4% with genotype 3 and 9% with genotype 4.
- The mean METAVIR fibrosis score was 2.8 (SD 1.2) with 78% having fibrosis scores ≥2.
- 41% had cirrhosis.
- The main HCV treatments consisted of VEL/SOF (33%), LDV/SOF (32%) and EBR/GZR (17%).
- 41% had cirrhosis.
- Fibrosis score was determined by transient elastography.
- Many more patients, including the elderly.

4. Conclusions

- Safety and efficacy of RBV-free DAA therapy is similar to that of younger adults.
- RBV-specific complications are frequent and without evidence of improved SVR in the elderly.