

# Repeated low-dose Sm-153-EDTMP therapy using the Vienna protocol is effective in pain palliation and lesion regression

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Journal of Nuclear Medicine May 2008, 49 (supplement 1) 369P;

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## Abstract

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**Objectives:** In 1996 we described the Vienna protocol based upon a dose of 1,1GBq (30mCi) Sm-153-EDTMP administered 5 times in 3 months intervals on an outpatient base followed by 5 further applications in 6- and then in 9 months intervals.

**Methods:** 200 patients suffering from hormone refractory prostate cancer (49-93a) with >1 bone lesion and/or bone pain receiving the 1st year therapy are presented. Bone uptake intraindividually was rather constant (<+/- 5%)with a high interindividual variation from 36% to 85% (mean=58,6%).

**Results:** Pain palliation was achieved completely in 53%, partially in 41% and failed in 6%. Duration of analgetic effect shortest was 8 weeks. PSA decreased in 21%, was stable in 48% and increased in 12%. A temporary increase (4-8 weeks) was observed in 19% followed by a longer lasting decrease. Flare phenomenon was rare (4%). Nadir of platelets (28,7d) was followed by white (30,7d) and red blood cells (37,7d). Lesion regression assessed by scintigraphy and MR was first seen after 2nd therapy (2%), increasing after 5th application to 41%. No predictive parameter as to the response was discovered. Decrease in PSA and adhesion molecules (ICAM, VCAM, E-selectin, nadir at 9-12 weeks) was significantly more pronounced in patients on statin treatment and positively correlated to red blood cells (r=0,73) and haemoglobin (r=0,75). Repeated therapy induced a further decrease. Quality of life, analgetics consumption, pain and Karnovsky score and WHO questionnaire showed a significant improvement.

**Conclusions:** Early and repeated Sm-153-EDTMP is the key to an improved therapeutic benefit both concerning pain palliation and lesion regression.

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