DIALOG workshop on standardization of a minimum dataset for the geriatric assessment in oncology


Key-words : geriatric oncology, geriatric assessment

Background. French society of Geriatric oncology (SoFOG) and Unicancer have established an active task force (DIALOG) for improving the standards of cancer care in older patients and a workshop was organized on agreement on a minimum geriatric dataset.

Target. To standardize the geriatric minimum data needed for oncology clinical trials for identifying patients with a geriatric risk profile.

Methodology and analysis. 7 domains have been studied by pairing of french geriatricians (14 specialists) interested in treatment of cancer. The requested job was to 1. list by domain available tests; 2. determine the most commonly used tests; 3. search studies that have compared the sensitivity and specificity of tests to identify the impairment of the domain; 4. compare the tests available from the practical point of view; 5. select the bibliography and studies that have motivated the choice of the test selected by the geriatricians pair in each domain; 6. issue a joint opinion of the pair on the best test to use.

Results. The tools chosen for each domain are 1. social assessment: living alone, needed help to live at home or living in nursing home; 2. functional autonomy (: ADL and short-IADL; 3. mobility: walking speed; 4 nutrition: MNA-SF, with weight loss at 3 months and BMI; 5. cognitive assessment: Dubois’s 5 words and clock test; 6. thymic status: mini-GDS; 7 comorbidity: updated Charlson.

Conclusion. Short onco-geriatric assessment set has been validated by Dialog group scientific committee. It must now be used by onco-geriatric teams who participate in clinical trials and studies.