



Brain glioma results by oncothermia

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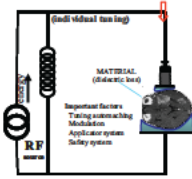


Objective

None of the established state of the art treatments in malignant primary brain tumors, especially in glioblastoma multiform (GBM), could show effective or commonly accepted curative potential until today. The editorial question of JAMA [1] in 2005 is actual even now "Where to go from here?" Our objective was to show a feasible way to go, summarizing the results obtained till now made by modulated electro hyperthermia (oncothermia) in various clinics in EU

Method

Data are collected from GBM and anaplastic astrocytomas (AA) published observational studies. The method is transcranially applied modulated RF current capacitive coupled at 13.56 MHz carrier frequency. (Oncotherm, EHY2000+) described in details elsewhere [2]. The applied protocol was unified step up heating, 40-150 W RF power with water bolus cooling. Treatment is applied in combination with chemo and/or radiotherapy or used as monotherapy if the conventional therapy fails.



Specialties of the method

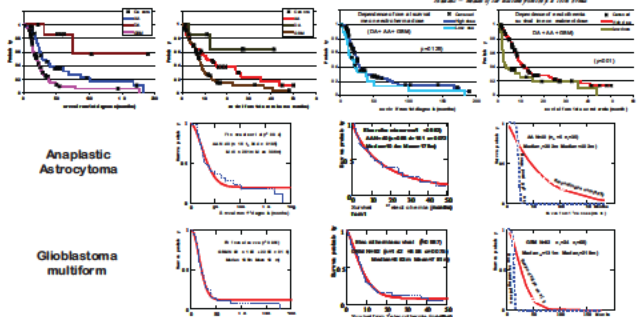
- Proven laboratory experiments had proven the efficacy of oncothermia on brain glioma cell lines.** (Images showing cell death under microscope)
- It is effective on low temperatures also. Consequence applicable for brain.** (Graph showing cell death at low temperatures)
- Due to the low temperature it is applicable near the eye.** (Image of a patient's head with treatment area near the eye)
- Easy to manage the treatment.** (Image of a patient in a treatment room)

Results

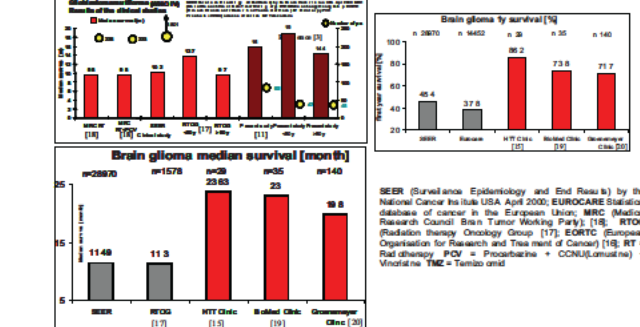
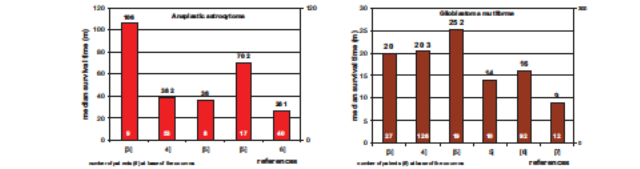
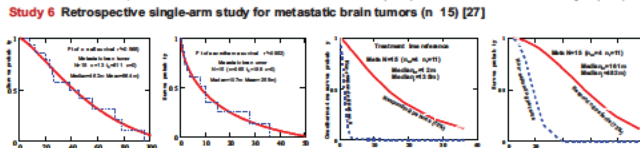
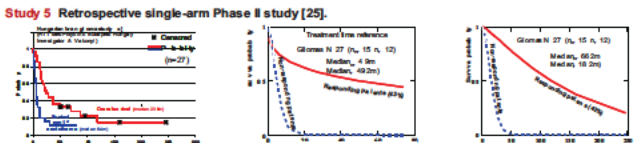
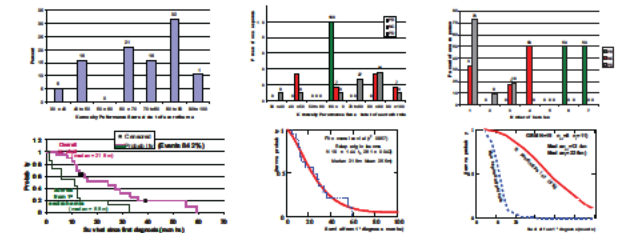
Study 1 Prospective single-arm Phase III study, [21], [22].
 (Neurology Clinic, Regensburg University, Germany) Investigators: Prof. U Bogdahn & Prof P Hau. Electrothermia is NON TOXIC (even by high dose escalation). It could stabilize the status of patients in highly advanced cases (n: 15).
Example:
 Patient: RE 015 4 40y. male. Anaplastic Oligoastrocytoma WHO III 2 resections (partial) 3 relapses. 1st therapy: Radio Tx. 2nd therapy: PCV (Procarbazine, CCNU and Vinorelbine); 3rd therapy: Temozolamide (Temozol) 4th therapy: Nimustin(ACNU) + Electrothermia, Cycles of ACNU: 3 Cycles of electrothermia 3 Sessions of electrothermia: 50 (5w). Karnofsky score at start: 70 Karnofsky score at end: 80 Best performance: STABLE DISEASE (SD)

Study 2 Prospective double-arm Phase II study, [23].
 Prospective, double-arm brain glioma study (control arm n=36, active arm n=9) study of advanced primary brain tumors (of WHO IV) was done in Nuremberg (Klinikum Nürnberg Nord, Nürnberg, Germany) Investigator: Prof. Dr. H. Riemer. Trimodal therapy was applied: radiotherapy (50.60 Gy) chemotherapy (Temozol) and electrothermia (8-12x 80 min). The median survival was measured on control arm as 9m while in the active electrothermia arm it was 15m.

Study 3 Retrospective single-arm Phase IV/III study was performed (n: 140) [24].
 Retrospective, single arm brain glioma study for advanced primary brain tumors was done. (In all cases the gold standard, was failed)



Study 4 Prospective single-arm Phase II study, [26].
 ACNU combination (80 mg/m²), which was used for safety (Phase I; dose escalation) trial had been used in Phase II as well for recurrent glioblastoma (n=19) (Klinik St Georg, Bad Abbng, Germany) Investigator: Dr. F. Dornes (19). The quality of life of patients was measured by standard Karnofsky Performance Score (KPS). The obtained median of overall survival was 21.8m (average survival 25.9m), while the median survival from first electrothermia was 8.5m (average survival 13.5m). Fig. 24. The local relapse response had no complete remission and 58% of the patients were in progressive disease (not responding on electrothermia). The ratio of responding patients is 59% (including 41%) calculated by the parametric selection. This difference could be caused by the relatively short follow up in this trial.



Toxicity

A well designed Phase I study shows the safety of the method [8]. The dose escalation has no extra hazard even in very frequent applications.

Conclusion

The results are strongly indicating the feasibility and the benefit of the oncothermia showing a valid treatment potential and safe application. Oncothermia is a potential way to escape from the present impasse situation and treat brain gliomas successfully. Performing prospective, randomized clinical trials in the future is mandatory.

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