



BREAST CANCER TREATMENT INNOVATIONS: THE BENEFITS OF NAB-PACLITAXEL OVER SOLVENT BASED PACLITAXEL

Oncology

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ABSTRACT

Breast cancer is a common cancer that develops from the breast tissue and frequently manifests as a lump or skin or nipple alteration. The rate of survival has increased due to advancements in treatment and early discovery through screening. Chemotherapy is a major treatment for breast cancer, and paclitaxel is a commonly used antibiotic because of its capacity to stop the growth of cancer cells. A new paclitaxel formulation called Nab-paclitaxel (Abraxane) does away with the requirement for solvents like cremophor, which are necessary in conventional paclitaxel formulations, by binding the medication to albumin nanoparticles. This special formulation makes paclitaxel more soluble and facilitates more efficient medication distribution to the tumor location. According to research, nab-paclitaxel may be superior to conventional paclitaxel in terms of tumor response rates, acceptability, and adverse effects, especially in relation to allergic responses and neurotoxicity. It is now a significant therapy option for advanced and metastatic breast cancer.

KEYWORDS

Breast cancer , Treatment , Nab-Paclitaxel , Nanoparticles ,Conventional Paclitaxel

INTRODUCTION

Breast cancer is one of the most common malignancies in the world and can affect both men and women. It originates in breast cells, and the risk of developing it rises with age, genetics, and exposure to the environment. Clinical examination and mammography-based early detection have greatly increased survival rates. Surgery, radiation, chemotherapy, hormonal therapy, and targeted therapies are commonly used to treat breast cancer, depending on the cancer's stage and type.

Neoadjuvant Therapy And Conventional Therapy

Neoadjuvant therapy is the term for preoperative treatments intended to decrease tumor size and enhance surgical results. This is frequently utilized in cases of big or locally progressed malignancies and frequently consists of hormone treatment, chemotherapy, or targeted therapy. In contrast, conventional therapy, which frequently includes hormone therapy, chemotherapy, and radiation therapy, is administered following surgery in order to eradicate any remaining cancer cells and lower the chance of recurrence.

Nab-paclitaxel Vs. Solvent-based Paclitaxel

The chemotherapy drug paclitaxel has been a mainstay in the management of breast cancer. Traditionally, solvents like cremophor are used in its formulation, which might result in adverse effects like allergic responses. Paclitaxel is coupled to albumin nanoparticles in the more recent version known as Nab-paclitaxel (Abraxane), which improves drug solubility and enables targeted delivery to the tumor. The tolerability profile is improved and hypersensitivity reactions are decreased by avoiding the hazardous solvents in this formulation. Nab-paclitaxel is a promising substitute for traditional paclitaxel in both neoadjuvant and metastatic situations, according to clinical research, which suggests that it may have better efficacy and fewer side effects.

Breast Carcinoma^[1]

Breast cancer is a condition where aberrant breast cells proliferate uncontrollably and develop into tumors. Untreated tumors have the potential to spread throughout the body and become lethal.

Inside the breast's milk ducts and/or milk-producing lobules, breast cancer cells first form. The early stage of the first type, known as in situ, is detectable and poses little harm to life. Cancer cells may invade neighboring breast tissue. This produces tumors that result in thickening or lumps.

Metastasis is the process by which invasive tumors spread to other organs or neighboring lymph nodes. Metastasis can be deadly and perhaps lethal.

Treatment is determined by the patient, the cancer kind, and the extent of the disease. Radiation therapy, surgery, and medication are all used in the treatment.

Breast lumps can result from a variety of illnesses, including cancer. However, the majority of breast lumps are brought on by other illnesses. Cysts and fibrocystic breast disease are two prevalent causes of breast lumps. Breasts with fibrocystic conditions may develop lumps, tenderness, and soreness due to noncancerous alterations. Small, fluid-filled sacs called cysts may form in the breast.^[6]

Among the early indicators of breast cancer are:

- ✓ A New Lump Under The Armpit Or Breast.
- ✓ Enlargement Or Thickening Of a Breast Portion.
- ✓ Breast Skin Irritation Or Dimpling.
- ✓ Skin Flakiness Or Redness Around The Breast Or Nipple.
- ✓ Nipple Pulling In Or Nipple Associated Pain.
- ✓ Anything Than Breast Milk, Like As Blood, From The Breasts.
- ✓ Any Modification To The Breast's Size Or Form.
- ✓ Any Kind Of Breast Discomfort.(6)

Neo Adjuvant Therapy Versus Conventional Adjuvant Chemotherapy:

One benefit of neoadjuvant chemotherapy is that it can turn inoperable breast tumors into ones that can be removed, allowing certain mastectomy candidates to have more conservative surgery. The neoadjuvant setting also takes into account chemotherapy drugs, such as taxanes, which are advised in the adjuvant context.^[3]

The primary distinction between adjuvant and neoadjuvant chemotherapy is how each treatment is administered by physicians.^[2]

Usually, oncologists use neoadjuvant chemotherapy to increase the likelihood that the primary treatment, such surgery, will be successful. Additionally, it may be used to examine a person's reaction to various medicines. After the initial treatment, any malignant cells that might still be present are eliminated by adjuvant chemotherapy.^[2]

Besides this, the way both types of therapy are administered is comparable. Both varieties:

- Decrease the chance of cancer returning
- Generally entails a three- to six-month course of therapy. Trusted Source solutions may be tailored to each individual's particular situation and tolerance.
- Are adaptable to each person's particular situation and tolerance.

The main treatment strategy for reducing the risk of recurrence and improving survival for patients with early-stage breast cancer is surgery aimed at eliminating the original tumor and obtaining negative tumor margins. Neoadjuvant chemotherapy, which is chemotherapy administered before to surgery, aids in the conversion of massive, incurable tumors into ones that may be removed^[2,3]. Neoadjuvant treatments can also reduce operable tumors, which enables mastectomy to be replaced with breast-conserving surgery^[4,5].

Benefits Of Nab (Nanoparticle Albumin-bound) Formulations Over Normal Chemo Drugs :

The ability to inject hydrophobic drugs intravenously has been made possible in large part by solvent-based delivery systems for chemotherapeutic medicines. However, there are significant and dose-limiting toxicities linked to these solvents. Hypersensitivity responses, neutropenia, and neuropathy are linked to solvent-based formulations of taxanes, a very potent class of cytotoxic drugs. By using the human protein albumin, nanoparticle technology can selectively deliver higher doses of medication to tumors while avoiding some of the toxicities associated with solvent-based formulations. Abraxane®, also known as 130 nM albumin-bound (nab™) paclitaxel, was recently authorized for use in patients with metastatic breast cancer who have not responded to combination therapy.^[7]

Advantages Of Protein Nanoparticles For Cancer Medicine :

Nab-paclitaxel :

A solvent-free, albumin-bound nanoparticle version of paclitaxel, nab-Paclitaxel capitalizes on the enhanced albumin delivery to tumors via receptor-mediated transport, or transcytosis. Nab-Paclitaxel promotes caveolin-1 and the development of caveolae via binding to endothelial cells' gp60 albumin receptor. The albumin-paclitaxel combination is transported by caveolae to the extracellular space, which includes the tumor interstitium. Selectively secreted by tumors, SPARC (secreted protein, acidic, and rich in cysteine) attaches to albumin-bound paclitaxel in the tumoral interstitium, causing paclitaxel to be released in the proximity of tumor cells. When compared to solvent-based paclitaxel, nab-paclitaxel exhibits greater anticancer effectiveness and reduced toxicity due to its receptor-mediated distribution and lack of solvents.^[8]

Benefits Of Nab-paclitaxel Over Solvent-based Paclitaxel :

The ability to administer much larger doses of paclitaxel over a shorter infusion period (30 minutes as opposed to 3 hours for sb-paclitaxel) and the removal of the requirement for pre-medications to prevent hypersensitivity reactions are just two benefits of nab-paclitaxel over sb-paclitaxel^[9]. Additional benefits of nab-paclitaxel versus sb-paclitaxel include increased paclitaxel distribution to tumors and improved paclitaxel transport across endothelial cells^[11]. Since nab-paclitaxel is made with albumin, it is assumed that the medication enters tumors via utilizing endogenous albumin transport routes, such as receptor-mediated transcytosis, to pass through endothelial cell monolayers. Compared to sb-paclitaxel, four times as much nab-paclitaxel was carried across endothelial cells in a preclinical research.^[10]

Furthermore, it was shown that Kolliphor EL prevented paclitaxel from attaching to endothelial cells and albumin, which might have limited the drug's intratumoral uptake. The enhanced permeation and retention effect suggests that molecules can escape the circulation through gaps between endothelial cells caused by leaky vasculature surrounding tumors, which is another way that albumin or albumin-bound molecules like nab-paclitaxel may enter the tumor microenvironment.^[12,13]

CONCLUSION

Nab-paclitaxel has several advantages over solvent-based paclitaxel, including the potential to deliver significantly higher doses of paclitaxel over a shorter infusion duration and the elimination of the need for pre-medications to avoid hypersensitivity reactions. In contrast to solvent-based paclitaxel, Nab-Paclitaxel is more effective, less toxic, requires less premedication, has a more adjustable dosing, and is solvent-free. Metastatic breast cancer, locally advanced metastatic or non-small-cell lung cancer, and metastatic pancreatic cancer can all be treated with nab-paclitaxel.

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