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IN BRIEF

PROSTATE CANCER

Updated prognostic model for overall survival in mCRPC

Researchers have developed a new prognostic model for overall survival after first-line chemotherapy, which takes into account the advances that have been made in the treatment of metastatic castration-resistant prostate cancer (mCRPC) in recent years. Using data from a phase III trial of 1,050 men, the researchers used adaptive lasso (least absolute shrinkage and selection operator) to select eight prognostic factors (including disease site, lactate dehydrogenase and opioid analgesic use) that could be used to predict overall survival; they validated the model in an external set.

Original article Halabi, S. *et al.* Updated prognostic model for predicting overall survival in first-line chemotherapy for patients with metastatic castration-resistant prostate cancer. *J. Clin. Oncol.* doi:10.1200/JC0/2013.52.3696

INCONTINENCE

Most bothersome lower urinary tract symptoms revealed

A large population-based survey has evaluated the bother associated with different lower urinary tract symptoms to identify the most bothersome. Analysis of 3,727 patients' responses to a questionnaire regarding 12 different symptoms revealed that urinary urgency, stress urinary incontinence and nocturia were the most common symptoms associated with bother at the population level, whereas individuals were more likely to rate urgency incontinence as bothersome than other lower urinary tract symptoms.

Original article Agarwal, A. *et al.* What is the most bothersome lower urinary tract symptom? Individual- and population-level perspectives for both men and women. *Eur. Urol.* doi:10.1016/j.eururo.2014.01.019

PROSTATE CANCER

New data on dietary lycopene suggests reduced risk

A prospective study of 49,898 male health professionals, followed from 1986 to 2010, has demonstrated an association between high dietary lycopene intake and reduced risk of prostate cancer, particularly lethal prostate cancer. Notably, the association was stronger in the subset of men who underwent PSA screening. In addition, biomarker analysis revealed lower levels of angiogenesis in prostate tumours from men who reported higher lycopene intake.

Original article Zu, K. *et al.* Dietary lycopene, angiogenesis, and prostate cancer: a prospective study in the prostate-specific antigen era. *J. Natl Cancer Inst.* doi:10.1093/jnci/djt430

BPH

Plasmakinetic enucleation noninferior to open prostatectomy

For large prostates, plasmakinetic enucleation is noninferior to open prostatectomy, according to new research from China. 123 men with prostates weighing >100 g finished 6-year follow-up assessment after randomization to receive either plasmakinetic enucleation or open prostatectomy. On intention-to-treat analysis, both groups demonstrated equivalent maximum urinary flow rate, International Prostate Symptom Score, quality of life and postvoid residual urine at 72 months after the procedure. Plasmakinetic enuclation was associated with fewer short-term complications.

Original article Chen, S. et al. Plasmakinetic enucleation of the prostate compared with open prostatectomy for prostates larger than 100 grams: a randomized noninferiority controlled trial with long-term results at 6 years. *Eur. Urol.* doi:10.1016/j.eururo.2014.01.010