Totally implanted venous access (TIVA) improves the safety and welfare of patients treated with cancer chemotherapy (CCT). We aimed to evaluate patients’ perception of TIVA placement, TIVA use, and information on TIVA, and to assess the association between patients’ perception and their attitude regarding a potential TIVA re-implantation” Vermeulin et al (2019).

Abstract:

INTRODUCTION: Totally implanted venous access (TIVA) improves the safety and welfare of patients treated with cancer chemotherapy (CCT). We aimed to evaluate patients’ perception of TIVA placement, TIVA use, and information on TIVA, and to assess the association between patients’ perception and their attitude regarding a potential TIVA re-implantation.

METHODS:
We conducted a single center cross-sectional survey in a university hospital in Northern France. Patients included were consecutive urologic or digestive cancer inpatients admitted for a CCT cycle via TIVA between April 9th and May 9th 2014. We analyzed patients’ satisfaction, experience, and attitude, especially when requiring potential TIVA re-implantation under local anesthesia (LA), using a standardized questionnaire and medical records. We analyzed risk factors for refusing potential TIVA re-implantation under LA using multivariate logistic regression.

RESULTS: Eighty-one patients were interviewed (no refusals), including 57 with a TIVA device placed under LA in our university hospital. Among them, 52/57 (91%) reported satisfactory TIVA placement, but respectively 21/57 (37%) and 18/57 (32%) complained of painful or uncomfortable TIVA placement; 51/57 (89%) were satisfied with care provided during CCT cycles. Risk factors for refusing potential re-implantation under LA were: TIVA placement considered painful (P=0.012) or uncomfortable (P=0.038) and dissatisfaction with care provided during CCT cycles (P=0.028).

DISCUSSION: We show that despite good overall satisfaction regarding TIVA, some aspects
were less positive and warrant improvement actions. It suggests that these actions could not only improve patients’ experience of TIVA use but could also facilitate continuation of treatment in the long term.

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