



Report from 10th UMOS conference on breast cancer

The 10th UMOS Conference: “Breast cancer as a fast moving target: what are the most important treatment and diagnosis updates in the last two years” was held in Belgrade on 16 - 17th May 2015, Serbia. This meeting was ESMO supported and we were very pleased to welcome dr Fatima Cardoso as an ESMO lecturer.

This conference was dedicated to the most important updates in the fields of diagnosis and treatment of breast cancer.

There were more than 100 attendees, mostly medical oncologists, but also surgical and radiotherapy oncologist.

The plenary lecture concerned guidelines on the treatment of metastatic breast cancer. We had the privilege to listen to the ABC2 recommendations published in Breast and Annals of Oncology in 2014 and an exceptional opportunity to discuss these important issues with dr. Cardoso. Dr. Fatima Cardoso organizes the Advanced Breast Cancer (ABC) Conferences every 2 years in Lisbon, Portugal.

Dr Giuseppe Curigliano was for the second time our dear guest who accepted our invitation to give lecture about the treatment of HER2 positive breast cancer. Besides the review about new therapeutic options of HER2 directed therapy, dr Curigliano talked also about anti-HER2 vaccines and about biosimilars.

Dr Joseph Gligorov has been coming to Serbia very often since more than ten years ago and devoted his time to many of our scientific meetings. His expert's opinions, which share with us, are very valuable for the wide community of local oncologists. This year the topic of his talk was the mechanisms of metastases development and the role of immune system in that process.

The first lecture was about so called liquid biopsy, an excited possibility to diagnose disease and monitor treatment response. The other topic included the importance of DTC (disseminated tumor cells) in bone marrow and possible prevention of bone metastases by adjuvant therapy with bisphosphonates or denosumab, anti-RANKL antibody.

One session was dedicated to mechanisms of drug resistance to conventional chemotherapy and targeted therapy (trastuzumab, endocrine therapy and TKIs). The last session of the first day was about triple negative breast cancer, its biology and possibility for treatment improvements (role of platinum therapy and PARP inhibition and antiangiogenic effect of bevacizumab).

During the second conference day we had a special lecture on chemotherapy – induced nausea and vomiting. Results of new studies investigating netupitant and olanzapine were presented. Since UMOS supports the concept of integrative/supportive oncology, the supportive/palliative therapy topics have been the mandatory part of UMOS meetings.

The session organized by UMOS **young oncologists** was the last session (young women with breast cancer, breast cancer as a chronic disease and the management of chemotherapy induced diarrhea) was chaired by UMOS YO Committee chairman dr. Lazar Popovic.

To our opinion the conference was successful with good opportunity for fruitful discussion on presented topics and how it could be incorporated in our routine practice burdened with financial limitations.

UMOS is very grateful to ESMO for the support. Our special gratitude goes to Dr. Fatima Cardoso finding time to visit Belgrade and gave plenary lecture. Also, not less important, we are very thankful to our dear guests dr Giuseppe Curigliano and dr Joseph Gligorov for their participation and valuable discussions all the time during the conference.

We hope the collaboration between ESMO and UMOS is going to be continued in future, especially because both organizations have been recognized in Serbia as leading societies in the field of oncology.

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