E-Poster

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Head and Neck Cancer Survivor Reported Benefits of Onabotulinum Toxin Injections for Neck Muscle Spasms

Topic: Pharmacological Agents

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BACKGROUND

There is limited published on the use of botulinum toxins for muscle spasms after radiation treatment. The primary objective of this study is to evaluate the effectiveness of initial injection of Onabotulinum toxin injection in head and neck cancer survivors with muscle spasms.

METHODS

Retrospective review of 91 head and neck cancer survivors at an American National Cancer Institute Comprehensive Cancer Center who were evaluated by physiatry 1/1/2020 - 10/31/2022. Physiatry records were evaluated regarding interventions ordered/performed including Onabotulinum toxin effectiveness.

RESULTS

Forty described muscle spasms during their initial clinic consultation. 32/40 and 7/51 of patients who had neck muscle spasms and those who did not respectively were offered Onabotulinum toxin injection. 19/32 and 5/7 received Onabotulinum toxin injection. 23/24 patients voiced improvement in muscle spasms at three week post-injection telephone follow-up.

CONCLUSION

The results of this retrospective review suggest Onabotulinum toxin injections for head and neck cancer related muscle spasm are beneficial. Future prospective randomized control trials using botulinum toxin are needed in this population.

Statement of Disclosures

None

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