

Category: B16 Hepatitis C

Title: Biomarkers of fibrosis in HIV/HCV-Coinfected Patients With and Without Sustained Virological Response Following Interferon Plus Ribavirin

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Text: Background We have previously shown that SVR following interferon plus ribavirin (IFN-RBV) therapy (RX) improves long-term clinical outcomes in HIV/HCV-coinfected patients. Our aim was to estimate if SVR improves liver fibrosis by different nonpatented scores, assessing the scores before and after IFN-RBV RX.

Methods From the GESIDA 3603/5607 Study Cohort—established to follow HIV/HCV-coinfected patients who started IFN-RBV RX between Jan 2000 and Dec 2007 in 19 centers in Spain with active follow-up—we selected patients with a pretreatment liver biopsy (LB) and assessed five nonpatented scores: FIB4, Forns, APRI, HGM1 and HGM2 using formulas of original publications, before and after finalization of IFN-RBV RX. For purposes of analysis, we used the difference between both assessments and its association with antiviral response.

Results From 1601 HIV/HCV-coinfected patients included in the cohort, 1154 had a baseline LB and 812 had a pre and post-RX biomarkers measurement. The result of the different biomarkers measurement categorized by baseline LB values (F0-F2 and F3-F4) and RX response are shown

| | Non-RVS | RVS | p |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|--------|
| Baseline LB with F0-F2 | 307 (62,1) | 187 (37,9) | |
| FIB4 difference from baseline | 0,18 (-0,32; 0,78) | -0,36 (-0,87; 0,03) | <0,001 |
| FORNS difference from baseline | 0,45 (-0,32; 1,56) | -0,87 (-1,75; -0,05) | <0,001 |
| APRI difference from baseline | -0,13 (-0,5; 0,26) | -0,57 (-1,13; -0,23) | <0,001 |
| HGM1 difference from baseline | -0,02 (-0,23; 0,15) | -0,25 (-0,46; -0,08) | <0,001 |
| Baseline LB with F3-F4 | 228 (71,7) | 90 (28,3) | <0,001 |
| FIB4 difference from baseline | 0,19 (-0,44; 1,99) | -0,52 (-1,41; -0,15) | <0,001 |
| FORNS difference from baseline | 0,41 (-0,46; 1,44) | -0,94 (-1,92; 0,25) | <0,001 |
| APRI difference from baseline | -0,13 (-0,85; 0,48) | -0,7 (-1,46; -0,23) | <0,001 |
| HGM1 difference from baseline | -0,03 (-0,16; 0,06) | -0,28 (-0,44; -0,11) | <0,001 |

[Table 1]

Conclusions The achievement of an SVR after IFN-RBV RX in HIV/HCV-coinfected patients is associated with improved in all scores studied. These results, based on a non-invasive method, show that eradication of HCV improves liver fibrosis in coinfecting patients.