



“Study of synthetic molecular medicine use in treatment of cancer ”

Dr. Kaushal .K .Chandrul(Dean), Dr.Gurav Kumar Sharma(H.O.D), Keshav Krishna

*Faculty Pharmaceutical Sciences, Mewar University
B.Pharmacy. 4th Year,8 Semester) MUR1700136*

Guided By :Mr. Ravi Verma

Assistant professor Faculty Pharmaceutical Sciences MEWAR UNIVERSITY ,Chittorghar,(RAJASTHAN)

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I. INTRODUCTION

Cancer is a hyperproliferative disease, and a cascade of events take place in order to cause a full blown disease. The major events include transformation, dysregulation of apoptosis, proliferation, invasion, angiogenesis, and metastasis. Meticulous research since the past few decades has yielded much information about the biology of cancer. Drugs used in the treatment of most cancers are those that can interfere with cell signalling, like growth factor signalling, prostaglandin production, inflammation, drug resistant gene products, cell cycle proteins, angiogenesis, invasion, antiapoptosis, cellular proliferation and many others (Aggarwal et al., 2006; Arora, 2010; Arora et al., 2010a,b,c). Herbs have been used in nearly every culture on earth for medicinal purposes. This method of medicine was practiced by various ancient civilizations thriving in Asia, Africa, Europe, and the Americas. As modern chemistry developed, chemicals and various constituents were isolated from medicinal herbs. These phytoconstituents have served either as drugs that are being used widely today or as starting materials for their synthesis. Many modern day drugs being used widely have been developed as a result of knowledge obtained from studying the mechanism of actions of various chemicals present in the herbal plants. Thus, we can easily infer that medicinal herbs have played a pivotal role in the expansion of modern medicine and continue to be widely used in their native form as well (Matthews et al., 1999; Sharma and Arora, 2006; Arora et al., 2008). Modern medicines derived from herbs are gaining attention throughout the world today. For example, the transformation of foxglove, a folk medicine, going through digitalis, eventually to a modern drug, digoxin, illustrates

potential of modern pharmacology that has played a supportive role in making drugs safer and more effective

Cancer is one of the most serious health problems worldwide, affecting individuals from different sexes, ages, and races. It is a group of diseases, characterized by uncontrolled cellular growth with frequent cancer cells invasion to different body parts and spreading to other organs, a process referred to as Metastasis. Metastasis is the major cause of cancer related mortality. In 2005, cancer was the second leading cause of death among both men and women and accounted for 13% of the total 58 million deaths worldwide. In 2006, about 10.9 million new cancer cases are expected to be diagnosed worldwide and more than 7.8 million cancer patients may die. Cancer is also a problem of economical dimensions with a very high level of expenses associated to it. For example the National Institute of Health, USA estimates that an overall of \$209.9 billion were invested worldwide in 2005, for the sake of cancer research and management. Cancer is a heterogeneous illness which can originate from many different organs of the human body. However, the most frequent cancer types in the world are lung, prostate, stomach, colorectal, and esophagus in men; and breast, lung, stomach, colorectal and cervical in women.

Prostate cancer is the most frequently diagnosed and the second leading cause of cancer death among men, with 234460 new cases estimated to occur in USA during 2006, and 27350 American men will die as a result of this disease(3). In Palestine, the mortality rate of prostate cancer was 1.4 per 100000 during the period from January, 1995 to December, 2002. Despite the fact there are several cell types in the

prostate, nearly all of the prostate cancers are adenocarcinoma, originating in the gland cells. Liver cancer ranks as the sixth most common type of cancer world wide. Many different liver related tumors are identified depending on the type of cells where they originate, from these types about 83% are hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) that begin in the hepatocytes, the main type of liver cells.

Cervical cancer is the most common cause of cancer death among women in developing countries and the second most common cancer in women worldwide. It is caused by a change in the epithelial cells, which line the wall of the cervix, and the most common risk factor for this type of cancer is the human Papillomavirus (HPV). In the last decades there were great advances in the diagnosis of cancer as well as in the field of molecular oncology. However, the cure rate of most cancers remains low. Several strategies have been used to cure cancer among which the most common are surgery, chemotherapy, radiotherapy, and immunotherapy. Other modern approaches such as hormonal and gene therapy were proposed by researchers to replace conventional cancer therapy, with variable degrees of success.

All of these therapies have undesired side effects, they are usually not available all the time and they are expensive. For instance, in surgery the immune system is compromised due to the large amount of cortisole released subsequent to the surgery, which increase the probability of cancer relapse. Moreover, the current use of chemotherapy is accompanied with difficult side effects. It inhibits bone marrow stem cells proliferation leading to immune suppression. Radiotherapy which is widely used in the world is also accompanied by a great deal of side effects. Lymphocytes are most readily affected by radiation resulting in prolonged T-cell suppression. Other side effects such as, bone necrosis, lung fibrosis, skin devascularization, ulceration, nausea, vomiting, and renal damage are also associated with all types of conventional therapies.

As the conventional cancer therapies failed to completely fulfill the criteria for a successful cancer therapy, the use of naturally developed anticancer agents has evolved as an alternative safe, low-cost and convenient one. Nontoxic chemoprevention agents from natural resources were proposed by researchers for this purpose.

1.2 What is cancer ?

Cancers are a large family of diseases that involve abnormal cell growth with the potential to invade or spread to other parts of the body. They form a subset of neoplasms. A neoplasm or tumor is a group of cells that have undergone unregulated growth and will often form a mass or lump, but may be distributed diffusely.

All tumor cells show the six hallmarks of cancer. These characteristics are required to produce a malignant tumor. They include:

- Cell growth and division absent the proper signals
- Continuous growth and division even given contrary signals
- Avoidance of programmed cell death
- Limitless number of cell divisions
- Promoting blood vessel construction
- Invasion of tissue and formation of metastases[26]

The progression from normal cells to cells that can form a detectable mass to outright cancer involves multiple steps known as malignant progression.

Type of cancer ?

- 1 Bladder Cancer
- 2 Breast Cancer
- 3 Colon and Rectal Cancer
- 4 Endometrial Cancer
- 5 Kidney Cancer
- 6 Leukemia
- 7 Liver Cancer
- 8 Lung Cancer
- 9 Melanoma
- 10 Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma
- 11 Pancreatic Cancer
- 12 Prostate Cancer
- 13 Thyroid Cancer

What is oncology

Oncology is a branch of medicine that deals with the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of cancer. A medical professional who practices oncology is an oncologist. The name's etymological origin is the Greek word ὄγκος (ónkos), meaning 1. "burden, volume, mass" and 2. "barb", and the Greek word λόγος (logos), meaning "study".

II. HISTORY

Cancer has existed for all of human history. The earliest written record regarding cancer is from circa 1600 BC in the Egyptian Edwin Smith Papyrus and describes breast cancer. Hippocrates (c. 460 BC – c. 370 BC) described several kinds of cancer, referring to them

with the Greek word *καρκίνος* karkinos (crab or crayfish). This name comes from the appearance of the cut surface of a solid malignant tumor, with "the veins stretched on all sides as the animal the crab has its feet, whence it derives its name". Galen stated that "cancer of the breast is so called because of the fancied resemblance to a crab given by the lateral prolongations of the tumor and the adjacent distended veins".:738 Celsus (c. 25 BC – 50 AD) translated karkinos into the Latin cancer, also meaning crab and recommended surgery as treatment. Galen (2nd century AD) disagreed with the use of surgery and recommended purgatives instead. These recommendations largely stood for 1000 years.

In the 15th, 16th and 17th centuries, it became acceptable for doctors to dissect bodies to discover the cause of death. The German professor Wilhelm Fabry believed that breast cancer was caused by a milk clot in a mammary duct. The Dutch professor Francois de la Boe Sylvius, a follower of Descartes, believed that all disease was the outcome of chemical processes and that acidic lymph fluid was the cause of cancer. His contemporary Nicolaes Tulp believed that cancer was a poison that slowly spreads and concluded that it was contagious.

III. CAUSES

The majority of cancers, some 90–95% of cases, are due to genetic mutations from environmental and lifestyle factors. The remaining 5–10% are due to inherited genetics. Environmental refers to any cause that is not inherited genetically, such as lifestyle, economic, and behavioral factors and not merely pollution. Common environmental factors that contribute to cancer death include tobacco (25–30%), diet and obesity (30–35%), infections (15–20%), radiation (both ionizing and non-ionizing, up to 10%), lack of physical activity, and pollution. Psychological stress does not appear to be a risk factor for the onset of cancer, though it may worsen outcomes in those who already have cancer.

3.1 Chemicals

Exposure to particular substances have been linked to specific types of cancer. These substances are called carcinogens. Tobacco smoke, for example, causes 90% of lung cancer. It also causes cancer in the larynx, head, neck, stomach, bladder, kidney, esophagus and pancreas. Tobacco smoke contains over fifty known carcinogens,

including nitrosamines and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons.

3.2 Diet and exercise

Diet, physical inactivity and obesity are related to up to 30–35% of cancer deaths. In the United States, excess body weight is associated with the development of many types of cancer and is a factor in 14–20% of cancer deaths. A UK study including data on over 5 million people showed higher body mass index to be related to at least 10 types of cancer and responsible for around 12,000 cases each year in that country. Physical inactivity is believed to contribute to cancer risk, not only through its effect on body weight but also through negative effects on the immune system and endocrine system. More than half of the effect from diet is due to overnutrition (eating too much), rather than from eating too few vegetables or other healthful foods.

3.3 Infection

Worldwide approximately 18% of cancer deaths are related to infectious diseases. This proportion ranges from a high of 25% in Africa to less than 10% in the developed world. Viruses are the usual infectious agents that cause cancer but cancer bacteria and parasites may also play a role.

Oncoviruses (viruses that can cause cancer) include human papillomavirus (cervical cancer), Epstein–Barr virus (B-cell lymphoproliferative disease and nasopharyngeal carcinoma), Kaposi's sarcoma herpesvirus (Kaposi's sarcoma and primary effusion lymphomas), hepatitis B and hepatitis C viruses (hepatocellular carcinoma) and human T-cell leukemia virus-1 (T-cell leukemias). Bacterial infection may also increase the risk of cancer, as seen in *Helicobacter pylori*-induced gastric carcinoma. Parasitic infections associated with cancer include *Schistosoma haematobium* (squamous cell carcinoma of the bladder) and the liver flukes, *Opisthorchis viverrini* and *Clonorchis sinensis* (cholangiocarcinoma).

3.4 Radiation

Radiation exposure such as ultraviolet radiation and radioactive material is a risk factor for cancer. Many non-melanoma skin cancers are due to ultraviolet radiation, mostly from sunlight. Sources of ionizing radiation include medical imaging and radon gas.

Ionizing radiation is not a particularly strong mutagen. Residential exposure to radon gas, for example, has similar cancer risks as passive smoking. Radiation is a more potent source of cancer when combined with other cancer-causing agents, such as radon plus tobacco smoke. Radiation can cause cancer in most parts of the body, in all animals and at any age. Children are twice as likely to develop radiation-induced leukemia as adults; radiation exposure before birth has ten times the effect.

Medical use of ionizing radiation is a small but growing source of radiation-induced cancers. Ionizing radiation may be used to treat other cancers, but this may, in some cases, induce a second form of cancer. It is also used in some kinds of medical imaging.

3.5 Heredity

The vast majority of cancers are non-hereditary (sporadic). Hereditary cancers are primarily caused by an inherited genetic defect. Less than 0.3% of the population are carriers of a genetic mutation that has a large effect on cancer risk and these cause less than 3–10% of cancer. Some of these syndromes include: certain inherited mutations in the genes BRCA1 and BRCA2 with a more than 75% risk of breast cancer and ovarian cancer,[65] and hereditary nonpolyposis colorectal cancer (HNPCC or Lynch syndrome), which is present in about 3% of people with colorectal cancer, among others.

3.6 Physical agents

Some substances cause cancer primarily through their physical, rather than chemical, effects. A prominent example of this is prolonged exposure to asbestos, naturally occurring mineral fibers that are a major cause of mesothelioma (cancer of the serous membrane) usually the serous membrane surrounding the lungs. Other substances in this category, including both naturally occurring and synthetic asbestos-like fibers, such as wollastonite, attapulgite, glass wool and rock wool, are believed to have similar effects. Non-fibrous particulate materials that cause cancer include powdered metallic cobalt and nickel and crystalline silica (quartz, cristobalite and tridymite). Usually, physical carcinogens must get inside the body (such as through inhalation) and require years of exposure to produce cancer.

3.7 Hormones

Some hormones play a role in the development of cancer by promoting cell proliferation. Insulin-like growth factors and their binding proteins play a key role in cancer cell proliferation, differentiation and apoptosis, suggesting possible involvement in carcinogenesis.

Hormones are important agents in sex-related cancers, such as cancer of the breast, endometrium, prostate, ovary and testis and also of thyroid cancer and bone cancer. For example, the daughters of women who have breast cancer have significantly higher levels of estrogen and progesterone than the daughters of women without breast cancer. These higher hormone levels may explain their higher risk of breast cancer, even in the absence of a breast-cancer gene. Similarly, men of African ancestry have significantly higher levels of testosterone than men of European ancestry and have a correspondingly higher level of prostate cancer. Men of Asian ancestry, with the lowest levels of testosterone-activating androstenediol glucuronide, have the lowest levels of prostate cancer.

3.8 Autoimmune diseases

There is an association between celiac disease and an increased risk of all cancers. People with untreated celiac disease have a higher risk, but this risk decreases with time after diagnosis and strict treatment, probably due to the adoption of a gluten-free diet, which seems to have a protective role against development of malignancy in people with celiac disease. However, the delay in diagnosis and initiation of a gluten-free diet seems to increase the risk of malignancies. Rates of gastrointestinal cancers are increased in people with Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis, due to chronic inflammation. Also, immunomodulators and biologic agents used to treat these diseases may promote developing extra-intestinal malignancies.

IV. SYMPTOM AND COMPLICATION

When cancer begins, it produces no symptoms. Signs and symptoms appear as the mass grows or ulcerates. The findings that result depend on the cancer's type and location. Few symptoms are specific. Many frequently occur in individuals who have other conditions. Cancer can be difficult to diagnose and can be considered a "great imitator."

4.1 Local symptoms

Local symptoms may occur due to the mass of the tumor or its ulceration. For example, mass effects from lung cancer can block the bronchus resulting in cough or pneumonia; esophageal cancer can cause narrowing of the esophagus, making it difficult or painful to swallow; and colorectal cancer may lead to narrowing or blockages in the bowel, affecting bowel habits. Masses in breasts or testicles may produce observable lumps. Ulceration can cause bleeding that can lead to symptoms such as coughing up blood (lung cancer), anemia or rectal bleeding (colon cancer), blood in the urine (bladder cancer), or abnormal vaginal bleeding (endometrial or cervical cancer). Although localized pain may occur in advanced cancer, the initial tumor is usually painless. Some cancers can cause a buildup of fluid within the chest or abdomen.

4.2 Systemic symptoms

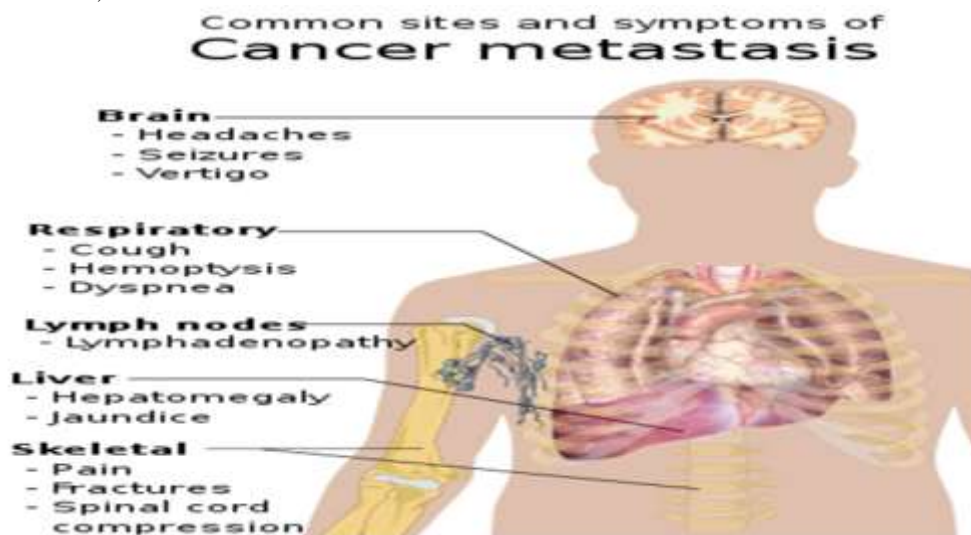
Systemic symptoms may occur due to the body's response to the cancer. This may include fatigue, unintentional weight loss, or skin changes. Some cancers can cause a systemic inflammatory state that leads to ongoing muscle loss and weakness, known as cachexia.

Some types of cancer such as Hodgkin disease, leukemias and cancers of the liver or kidney can cause a persistent fever.

Some systemic symptoms of cancer are caused by hormones or other molecules produced by the tumor, known as paraneoplastic syndromes. Common paraneoplastic syndromes include hypercalcemia which can cause altered mental state, constipation and dehydration, or hyponatremia that can also cause altered mental status, vomiting, headache or seizures.

4.3 Metastasis

Cancer can spread from its original site by local spread, lymphatic spread to regional lymph nodes or by hematogenous spread via the blood to distant sites, known as metastasis. When cancer spreads through the blood, it may spread through the body but is more likely to travel to certain areas depending on the cancer type. The symptoms of metastatic cancers depend on the tumor location and can include enlarged lymph nodes (which can be felt or sometimes seen under the skin and are typically hard), enlarged liver or enlarged spleen, which can be felt in the abdomen, pain or fracture of affected bones and neurological symptoms.



V. PREVENTION

Cancer prevention is defined as active measures to decrease cancer risk. The vast majority of cancer cases are due to environmental risk factors. Many of these environmental factors are controllable lifestyle choices. Thus, cancer is generally preventable. Between 70% and 90% of

common cancers are due to environmental factors and therefore potentially preventable.

Greater than 30% of cancer deaths could be prevented by avoiding risk factors including: tobacco, excess weight/obesity, poor diet, physical inactivity, alcohol, sexually transmitted infections and air pollution. Not all environmental causes are controllable, such as

naturally occurring background radiation and cancers caused through hereditary genetic disorders and thus are not preventable via personal behavior.

5.1 Dietary

While many dietary recommendations have been proposed to reduce cancer risks, the evidence to support them is not definitive. The primary dietary factors that increase risk are obesity and alcohol consumption. Diets low in fruits and vegetables and high in red meat have been implicated but reviews and meta-analyses do not come to a consistent conclusion. A 2014 meta-analysis found no relationship between fruits and vegetables and cancer. Coffee is associated with a reduced risk of liver cancer. Studies have linked excess consumption of red or processed meat to an increased risk of breast cancer, colon cancer and pancreatic cancer, a phenomenon that could be due to the presence of carcinogens in meats cooked at high temperatures. In 2015 the IARC reported that eating processed meat (e.g., bacon, ham, hot dogs, sausages) and, to a lesser degree, red meat was linked to some cancers.

5.2 Medication

Medications can be used to prevent cancer in a few circumstances. In the general population, NSAIDs reduce the risk of colorectal cancer; however, due to cardiovascular and gastrointestinal side effects, they cause overall harm when used for prevention. Aspirin has been found to reduce the risk of death from cancer by about 7%. COX-2 inhibitors may decrease the rate of polyp formation in people with familial adenomatous polyposis; however, it is associated with the same adverse effects as NSAIDs. Daily

use of tamoxifen or raloxifene reduce the risk of breast cancer in high-risk women. The benefit versus harm for 5-alpha-reductase inhibitor such as finasteride is not clear.

5.3 Vaccination

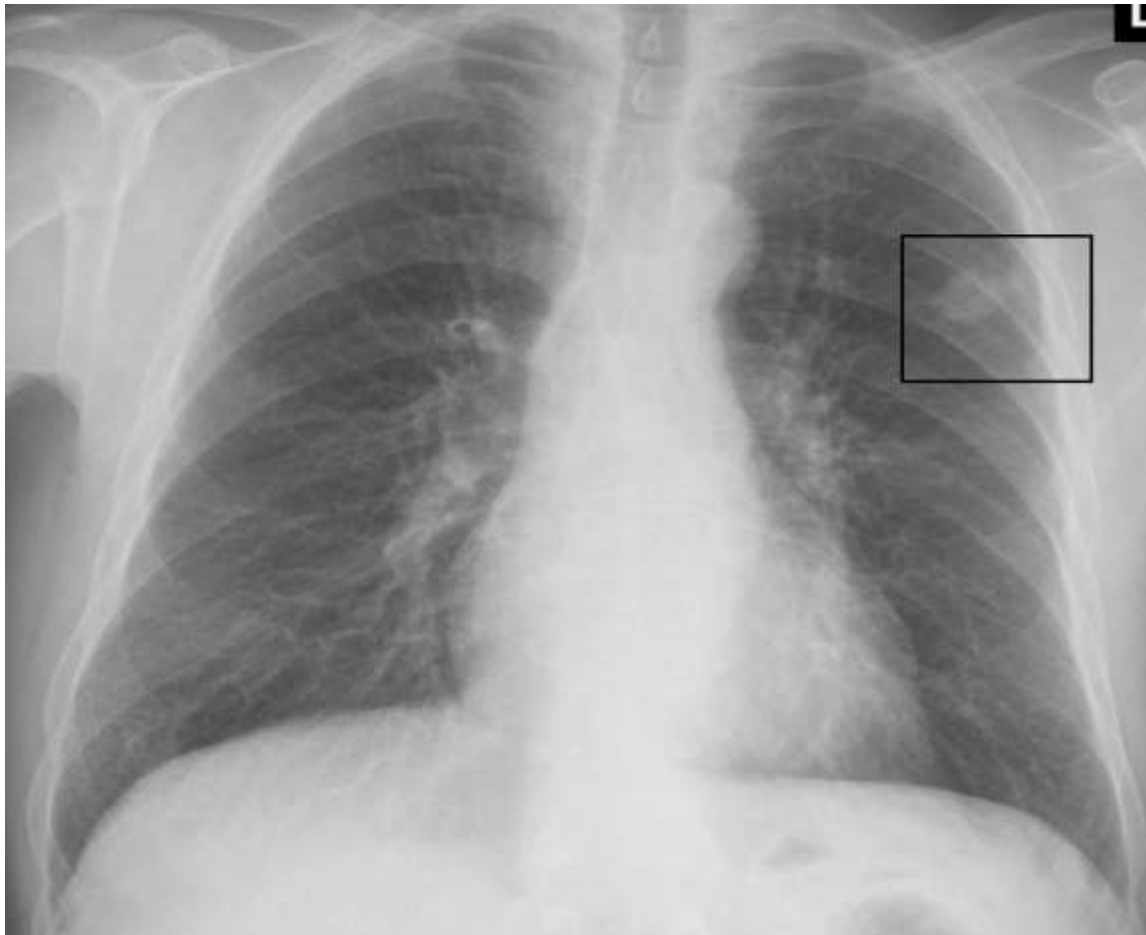
Vaccines have been developed that prevent infection by some carcinogenic viruses. Human papillomavirus vaccine (Gardasil and Cervarix) decrease the risk of developing cervical cancer. The hepatitis B vaccine prevents infection with hepatitis B virus and thus decreases the risk of liver cancer. The administration of human papillomavirus and hepatitis B vaccinations is recommended where resources allow.

VI. DIAGNOSIS

Most cancers are initially recognized either because of the appearance of signs or symptoms or through screening. Neither of a tissue sample by a pathologist. People with suspected cancer are investigated with medical tests. These commonly include blood tests, X-rays, (contrast) CT scans and endoscopy.

The tissue diagnosis from the biopsy indicates the type of cell that is proliferating, its histological grade, genetic abnormalities and other features. Together, this information is useful to evaluate the prognosis and to choose the best treatment.

Cytogenetics and immunohistochemistry are other types of tissue tests. These tests provide information about molecular changes (such as mutations, fusion genes and numerical chromosome changes) and may thus also indicate the prognosis and best treatment.



VII. MANAGEMENT

Many treatment options for cancer exist. The primary ones include surgery, chemotherapy, radiation therapy, hormonal therapy, targeted therapy and palliative care. Which treatments are used depends on the type, location and grade of the cancer as well as the patient's health and preferences. The treatment intent may or may not be curative

7.1 Chemotherapy

Chemotherapy is the treatment of cancer with one or more cytotoxic anti-neoplastic drugs (chemotherapeutic agents) as part of a standardized regimen. The term encompasses a variety of drugs, which are divided into broad categories such as alkylating agents and antimetabolites. Traditional chemotherapeutic agents act by killing cells that divide rapidly, a critical property of most cancer cells.

It was found that providing combined cytotoxic drugs is better than a single drug; a process called the combination therapy; which has an advantage in the statistics of survival and response to the tumor and in the progress of the disease. A Cochrane review concluded that combined therapy was more effective to treat metastasized breast cancer. However, generally it is not certain whether combination chemotherapy leads to better health outcomes, when both survival and toxicity are considered.

Targeted therapy is a form of chemotherapy that targets specific molecular differences between cancer and normal cells. The first targeted therapies blocked the estrogen receptor molecule, inhibiting the growth of breast cancer. Another common example is the class of Bcr-Abl inhibitors, which are used to treat chronic myelogenous leukemia (CML). Currently, targeted therapies exist for many of the most common cancer types, including bladder cancer, breast cancer, colorectal cancer, kidney cancer, leukemia, liver cancer, lung

cancer, lymphoma, pancreatic cancer, prostate cancer, skin cancer, and thyroid cancer as well as other cancer types.

7.2 Radiation

Radiation therapy involves the use of ionizing radiation in an attempt to either cure or improve symptoms. It works by damaging the DNA of cancerous tissue, killing it. To spare normal tissues (such as skin or organs, which radiation must pass through to treat the tumor), shaped radiation beams are aimed from multiple exposure angles to intersect at the tumor, providing a much larger dose there than in the surrounding, healthy tissue. As with chemotherapy, cancers vary in their response to radiation therapy.

Radiation therapy is used in about half of cases. The radiation can be either from internal sources (brachytherapy) or external sources. The radiation is most commonly low energy X-rays for treating skin cancers, while higher energy X-rays are used for cancers within the body. Radiation is typically used in addition to surgery and or chemotherapy. For certain types of cancer, such as early head and neck cancer, it may be used alone. For painful bone metastasis, it has been found to be effective in about 70% of patients.

7.3 Surgery

Surgery is the primary method of treatment for most isolated, solid cancers and may play a role in palliation and prolongation of survival. It is typically an important part of definitive diagnosis and staging of tumors, as biopsies are usually required. In localized cancer, surgery typically attempts to remove the entire mass along with, in certain cases, the lymph nodes in the area. For some types of cancer this is sufficient to eliminate the cancer.

7.4 Palliative care

Palliative care is treatment that attempts to help the patient feel better and may be combined with an attempt to treat the cancer. Palliative care includes action to reduce physical, emotional, spiritual and psycho-social distress. Unlike treatment that is aimed at directly killing cancer cells, the primary goal of palliative care is to improve quality of life

7.5 Immunotherapy

A variety of therapies using immunotherapy, stimulating or helping the immune system to fight cancer, have come into

use since 1997. Approaches include antibodies, checkpoint therapy, and adoptive cell transfer

7.6 Laser therapy

Laser therapy uses high-intensity light to treat cancer by shrinking or destroying tumors or precancerous growths. Lasers are most commonly used to treat superficial cancers that are on the surface of the body or the lining of internal organs. It is used to treat basal cell skin cancer and the very early stages of others like cervical, penile, vaginal, vulvar, and non-small cell lung cancer. It is often combined with other treatments, such as surgery, chemotherapy, or radiation therapy. Laser-induced interstitial thermotherapy (LITT), or interstitial laser photocoagulation, uses lasers to treat some cancers using hyperthermia, which uses heat to shrink tumors by damaging or killing cancer cells. Lasers are more precise than surgery and cause less damage, pain, bleeding, swelling, and scarring. A disadvantage is surgeons must have specialized training. It may be more expensive than other treatments.

7.7 Alternative medicine

Complementary and alternative cancer treatments are a diverse group of therapies, practices and products that are not part of conventional medicine. "Complementary medicine" refers to methods and substances used along with conventional medicine, while "alternative medicine" refers to compounds used instead of conventional medicine. Most complementary and alternative medicines for cancer have not been studied or tested using conventional techniques such as clinical trials.

VIII. DRUGS USE IN TREATMENT OF CANCER

The anticancer drugs either kill cancer cells or modify their growth. However, selectivity of majority of drugs is limited and they are one of the most toxic drugs used in therapy. Treatment of malignant diseases with drugs is a rather recent development—started after 1940 when nitrogen mustard was used, but progress has been rapid, both in revealing pathobiology of the diseases and in discovery of new drugs. The latest innovations target growth factors, specific signaling pathways, angiogenesis, tumour antigens, etc. to introduce a different spectrum of drugs. In addition, attempts have been made to define optimal combinations, treatment strategies and patient support measures.

Cancer chemotherapy is now of established value and a highly specialized field to be handled by oncology specialists supported by a multidisciplinary team. Only the general principles and an outline will be presented here. In addition to their prominent role in leukaemias and lymphomas, drugs are used in conjunction with surgery, radiotherapy and

8.1 CLASSIFICATION OF DRUGS ARE USED IN CANCER

There is three classification of drugs are used in cancer diseases. Depend on the action of drugs

A. Cytotoxic drugs

1. Alkylating agents Mechlorethamine

Nitrogen mustards (Mustine HCl)

Cyclophosphamide,

Ifosfamide,
Chlorambucil,
Melphalan

Ethylenimine Thio-TEPA

Alkyl sulfonate Busulfan

Nitrosoureas Carmustine (BCNU),

(CCNU)

Triazine Dacarbazine (DTIC),

Methylhydrazine Procarbazine

2. Platinum Cisplatin, coordination Carboplatin, Complexes Oxaliplatin

3. Antimetabolites

Folate Methotrexate (Mtx)

Antagonist Pemetrexed

Purine 6-Mercaptopurine (6-MP),

Antagonist 6-Thioguanine (6-TG),

Azathioprine, Fludarabine

Pyrimidine 5-Fluorouracil (5-FU),

Antagonist Capecitabine,

Cytarabine
(cytosine
arabino-
side)

4. Microtubule damaging agents

Vinorelbine

Vincristine (Oncovin),
Vinblastine,

Paclitaxel, Docetaxel
Estramustine

tine

5. Topoisomerase-2 inhibitors

Etoposide

6. Topoisomerase-1 Inhibitors

Topotecan,
Irinotecan

7. Antibiotics

Actinomycin D
(Dactinomycin),
Doxorubicin,
Daunorubicin,
(Rubidomycin)
Epirubicin
Mitoxantrone
Bleomycins
Mitomycin C

8. Miscellaneous

Hydroxyurea,
L-Asparaginase
Tretinoin
Arsenic trioxide

B. Targeted drugs

BCR-ABL tyrosine
Kinase inhibitors

Imatinib
Dasatinib
Nilotinib

EGF (HRE) receptor
Inhibitors

Gefitinib
Erlotinib
Cetuximab
Trastuzumab
Lapatinib

Angiogenesis inhibitor

Bevacizumab
Sunitinib
Sorefenib
bortezomib
Rituximab

Proteasome inhibitor
CD20 inhibitor

C. Hormonal drugs

Glucocorticoids

Prednisolone (other)

Estrogens

Ethinyl estradiol

Forfesterol

SERMs

Tamoxifen

Toremifene

SER-down regulator

Fulvestrant

Aromatase inhibitors

Letrozole

Anastrozole

exemestane

Antiandrogens

Flutamide

Bicalutamide

5-a- reductase inhibitors

Finasteride

Dutasteride

GnRH analogues

Nafarelin

Leuprorelin

Triptorelin

Progestins

Hydroxy-progesterone

Acetate (other)

IX. SYNTHETIC MOLECULAR MEDICINES

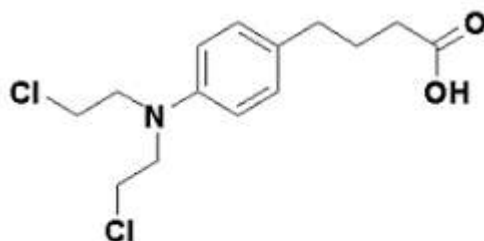
9.1 One nitrogen containing synthetic medicines

A Chlorambucil

is a nitrogen mustard alkylating agents (act as binding DNA) approved before 1984 for the treatment of Hodgkin and non-Hodgkin lymphoma, chronic lymphocytic leukemia, trophoblastic neoplasms, waldenström macroglobulinemia (a white blood cell carcinoma), polycythemia vera

(formation of more red blood cell) and ovarian carcinoma with

side effects :- low white blood cells count, low platelet count, menstrual period stop, sperm reduction, hair loss etc.

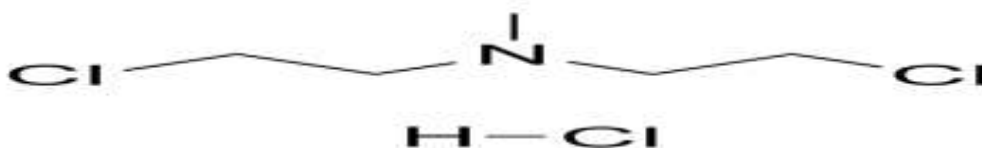


chlorambucil

B. Chlormethine

(mechlorethamine, mustine) is also nitrogen mustard alkylating agents and used to treatment of prostate cancer since 1946 with

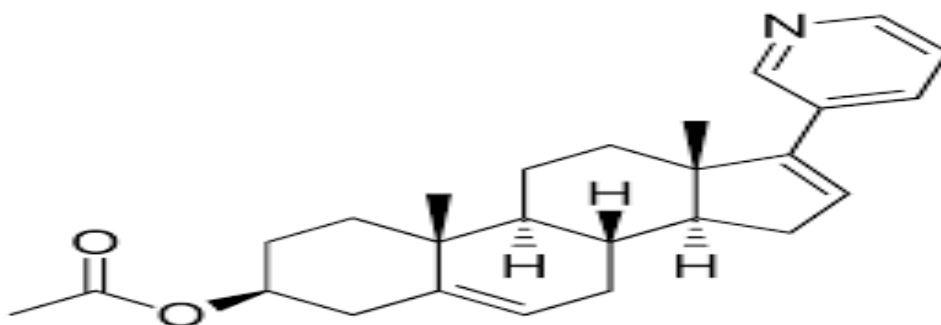
side effects :- low white blood cell count, low platelet count, anemia, nausea, vomiting, tasteless, low appetite, hair loss, longterm infertility etc



C. Abiraterone

It was approved to treatment of advanced prostate cancer in 2011 however. and works as 17 α -hydroxylase/C17, 20 lyase (CYP17A1) inhibitor with

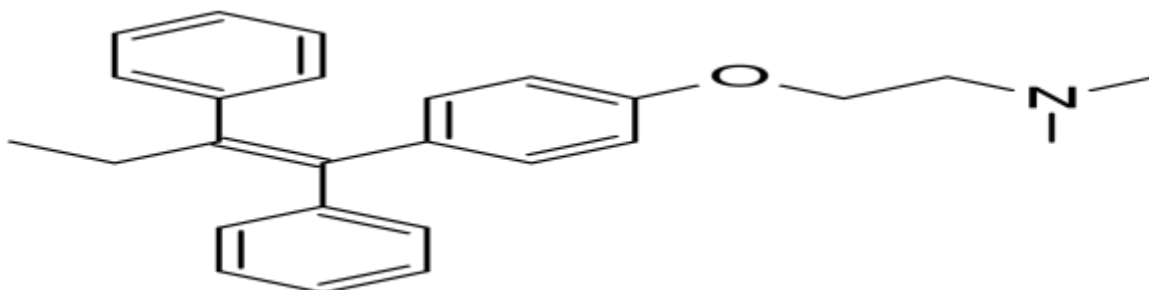
side effects:- joint pain, swelling, tiredness, muscle aches, low blood levels of potassium or phosphate, high cholesterol, anemia, low white blood cell count, abnormal blood test results, high blood sugar etc.



D. Tamoxifen

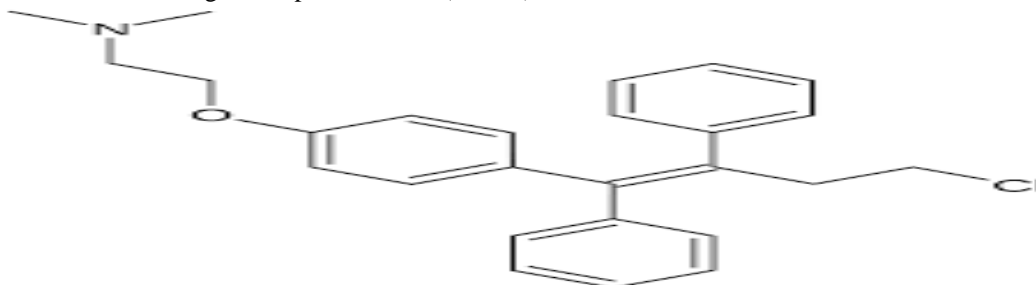
It is an essential medicine with very less side effects as comparison with other anticancer drugs and it is used to treatment of breast cancer . It is a

special type hormone prodrug, used as estrogen receptor and known as selective estrogen receptor modifier (SERM).



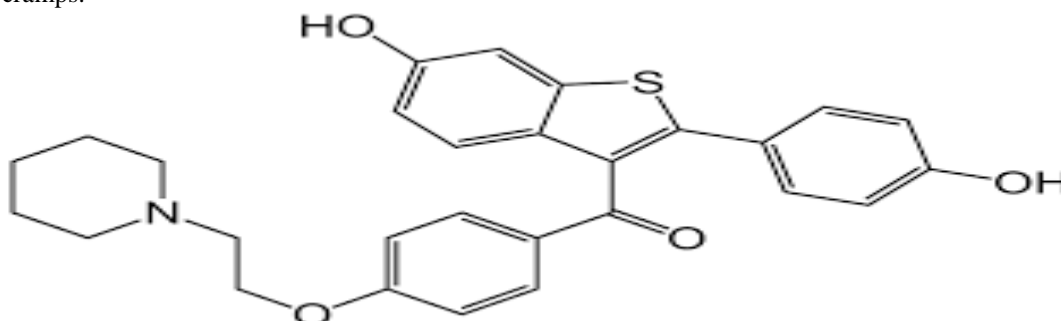
E. Toremifene

It was approved for the treatment of breast cancer in 1997 and also used for the treatment of prostate cancer and acts as selective estrogen receptor modifier (SERM) similar to tamoxifen.



F. Raloxifene

It is also a selective estrogen receptor modifier (SERM) and approved to treatment of breast cancer in 2007. Tamoxifen, toremifene and raloxifene were showing common side effects such as hot flashes, tiredness and leg cramps.



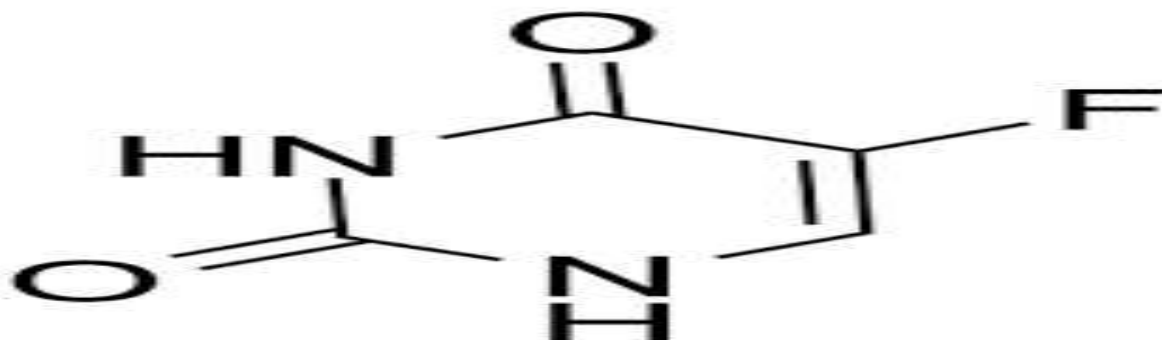
9.2 Two nitrogen containing synthetic medicines

A. Fluorouracil (5-FU)

It is an important essential drug of varies cancer treatment such as breast, anal, stomach, colorectal,

pancreatic, skin and oesophageal. It acts as thymidylate synthase inhibitors

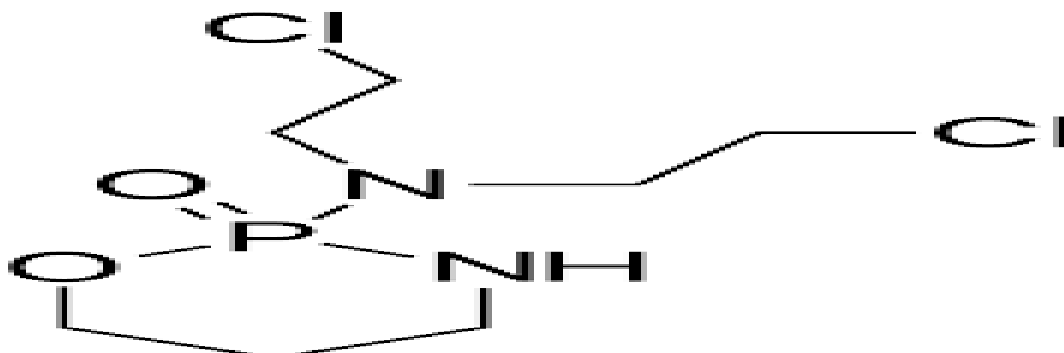
side effects :- nausea, headache, vomiting, hair loss, photosensitivity low white blood cell count, low platelet count, sores in mouth, brittle nails, dry skin etc.



B. Cyclophosphamide

It is nitrogen alkylating agent which used for the treatment of lymphoma, multiple myeloma, leukemia, neuroblastoma, mycosis fungoides, retinoblastoma etc.

side effects:- hair loss, diarrhea, nausea, low white blood cell count, mouth sores, appetite loss, bleeding from bladder, vomiting etc.



C. Cisplatin (cis-diamminedichloroplatinu (II), cisplatinum)

It is a platinum containing anticancer drug which acts as cross linking of DNA (alkylating agents) of carcinoma cells and approved to treatment of ovarian, testicular, bladder, lung cancer.

side effect:- kidney damage, decreased potassium, magnesium and calcium level in blood, vomiting, nausea, low white blood count, low platelet count, anemia, change in taste, numbness, swelling etc.

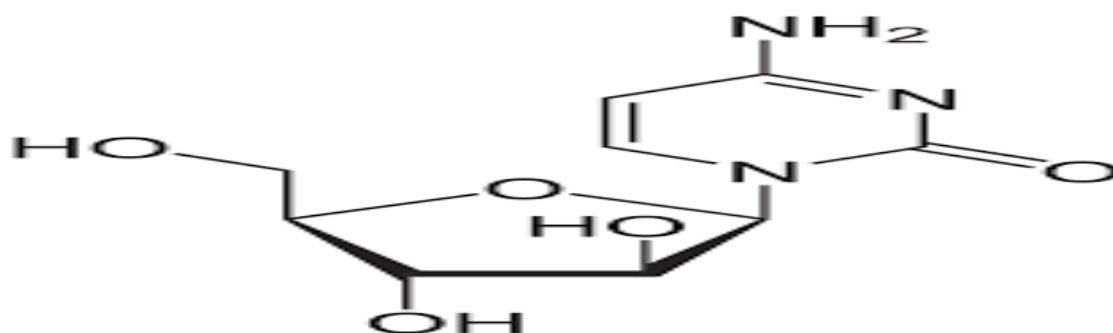


9.3 Three nitrogen containing synthetic medicines

A. Cytarabine

It is a most essential drug which is used to cure acute myeloid leukemia (a white blood cell cancer)

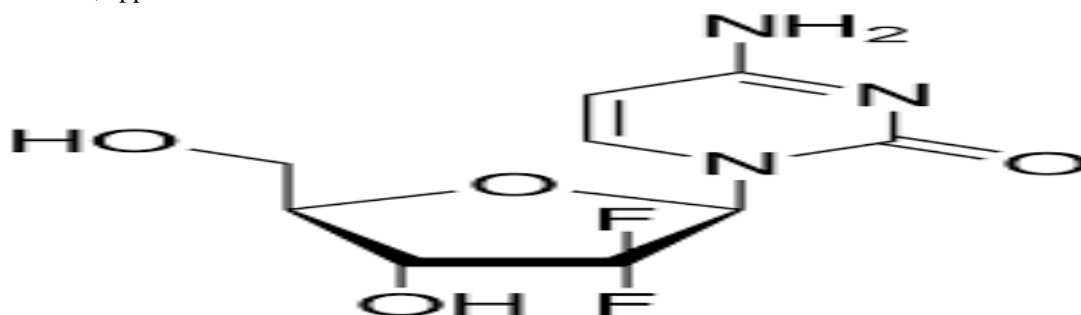
and non-hodgkin lymphoma. It acts as DNA synthesis inhibitors of carcinoma cell **side effects:-** nausea, vomiting, low blood cell count, low platelet count, stomach pain, tiredness, mouth sore etc.



B. Gemcitabine

It is used to treatment of various type cancers such as pancreatic, lung [49], ovarian, breast cancers. It also acts as DNA synthesis inhibitors of carcinoma cells

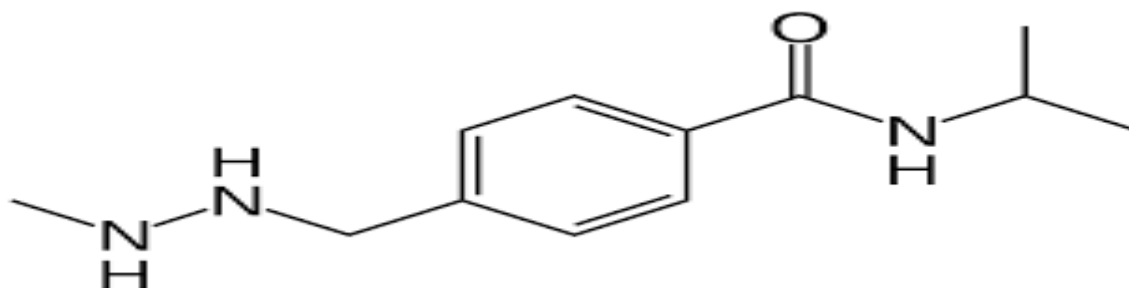
side effects:- such as fever, low white blood cell count, low platelet count, anemia, nausea, vomiting, tiredness, rash on skin, appetite loss etc.



C. Procarbazine

It is an alkylating agent and approved to treatment of Hodgkin's lymphoma and glioblastoma (brain cancer) in 1969 .

side effects:- low white blood cell count, low platelet count, depression, nausea, vomiting, felling nervousness, appetite loss, sleeping problems etc. It is used with combination of other anticancer medicines.



D. Bendamustine

It was approved to treatment of chronic lymphocytic leukemia and non Hodgkin lymphoma in 2008. It is a nitrogen mustard and acts as alkylating agents

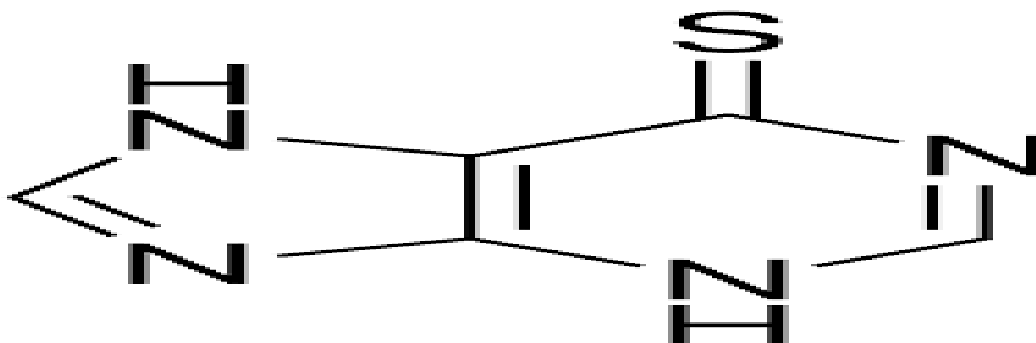
side effects:- low white blood cell count, low platelet count, anemia, fever, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, appetite loss, tiredness etc.

9.4 Four nitrogen containing synthetic medicines

A. Mercaptopurine (azathioprine)

It is used for the treatment of leukemia (a cancer of bone marrow). It acts as anti-metabolite.

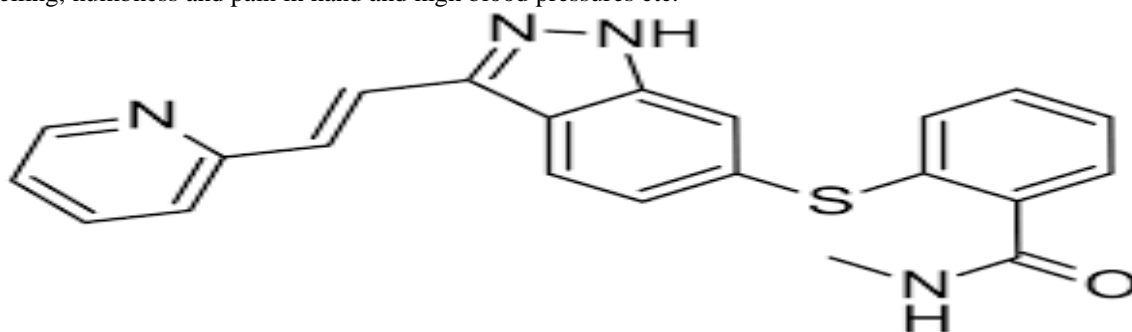
side effects:- low white blood cell count, low blood platelet count and anemia etc.



B. Axitinib

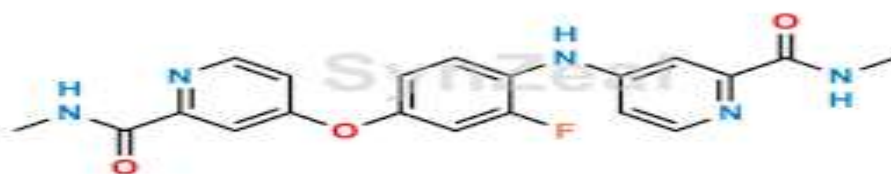
It was approved in 2012 for the treatment of renal cell carcinoma. It acts as vascular epidermal growth factor receptor (VEGFR) for a tyrosine kinase protein.

side effects:- such as skin rashes, diarrhea, nausea, low blood cell counts, tiredness, appetite loss, weight loss, swelling, numbness and pain in hand and high blood pressures etc.



C. Regorafenib

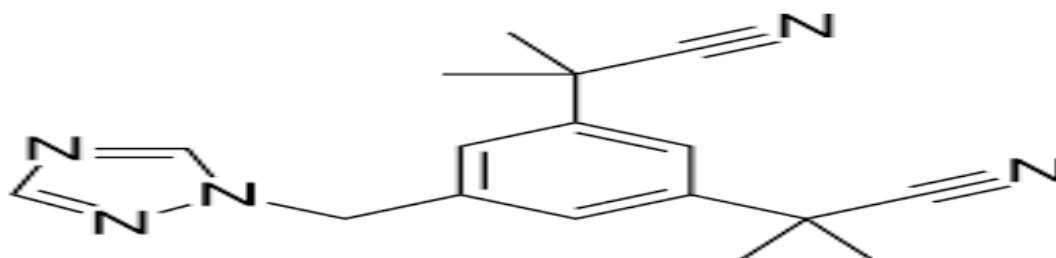
It was approved in 2012 for the treatment of metastatic colorectal and advanced gastrointestinal stromal tumors. It acts as oral receptor tyrosine kinase inhibitor with **side effects:-** fever, appetite loss, tiredness, weakness, diarrhea, infection, weight loss, mouth's sores, rashes, high blood pressure, change in voice, bleeding etc.



9.5 Five nitrogen containing synthetic medicines

A. Anastrozole

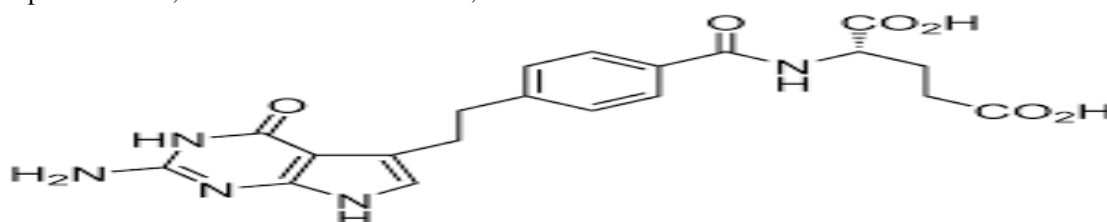
It was approved in 1995 for the treatment of breast cancer. It acts as aromatase inhibitors (block aromatase which is necessary for the formation of estrogen) with **side effects :-** pain in joint and bones, hot flashes etc.



B. Pemetrexed

It was approved in 2004 and used for the treatment of malignant pleural mesothelioma (the lining of the chest cavity around the lungs cancer) and non small cell lung cancer. It acts as anti-metabolites.

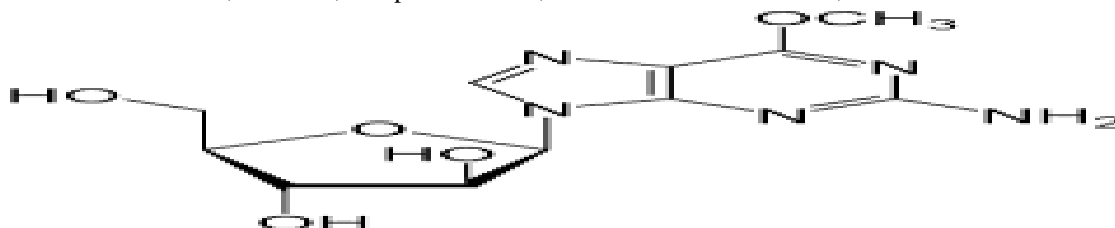
side effects :- breathing difficulty, tiredness, rashes, appetite loss, mouth sores, constipation, nausea, vomiting, low platelet count, low white blood cell count, anemia etc.



C. Nelarabine

It was approved in 2005 and used for the treatment of T-cell acute lymphoblastic leukemia (a white blood cell cancer). It also acts as anti-metabolites (block the formation of DNA and RNA of carcinoma cells).

side effects:- headache, tiredness, low platelet count, low white blood cell count, anemia etc.

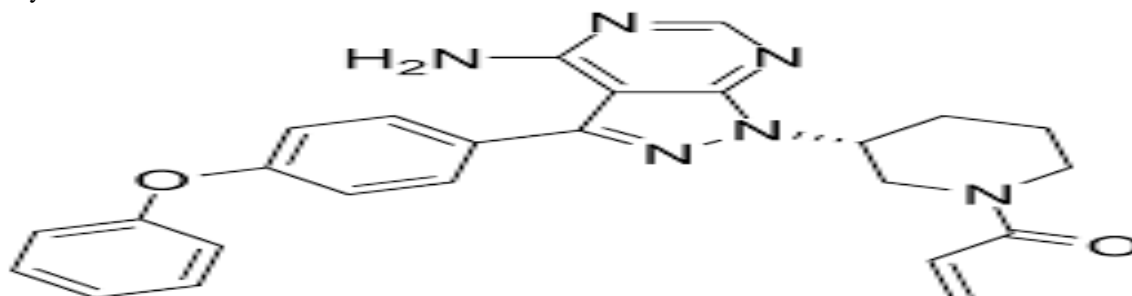


9.6 Six nitrogen containing synthetic medicines

A. Ibrutinib

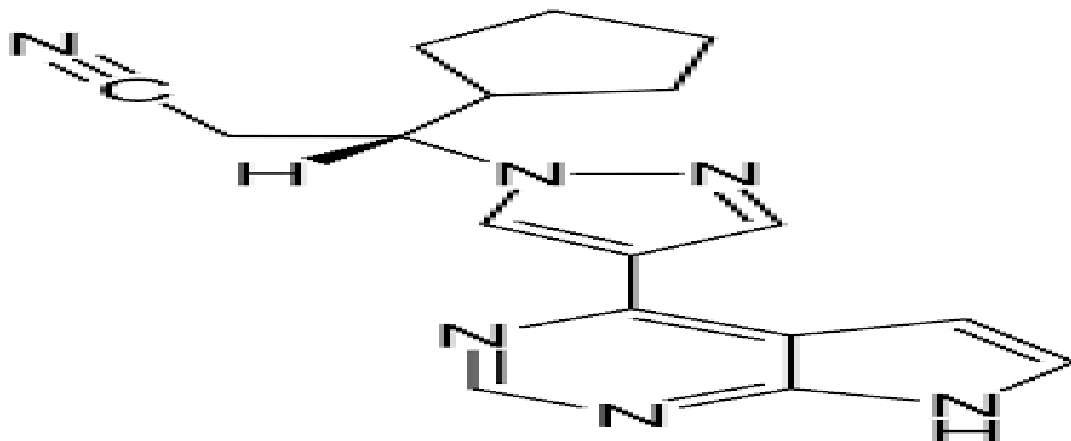
It was approved in 2013 and used for the treatment of chronic lymphocytic leukemia and mantle cell lymphoma (a non-Hodgkin's lymphomas). It acts as tyrosine kinase inhibitor

side effects:- nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, tiredness, pain in bone and muscles, cold, swelling, breath disorder, rashes in skin, constipation, abdominal pain, appetite loss, anemia, low platelet count etc.



B. Ruxolitinib

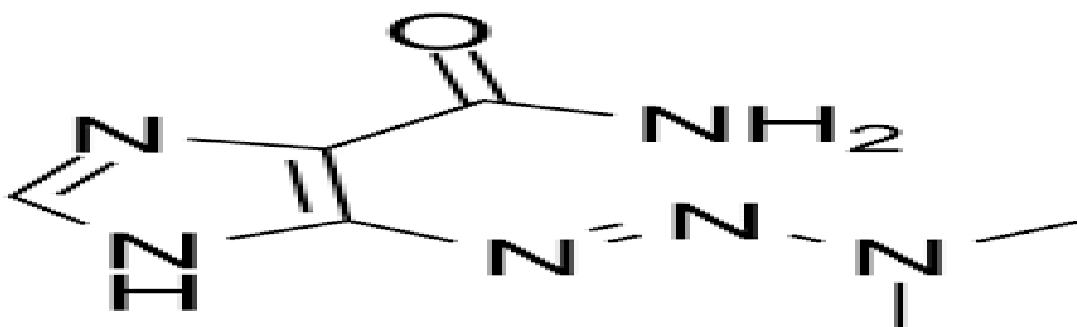
It was approved in 2011 and used for the treatment of myelofibrosis (a bone marrow carcinoma) and pancreatic carcinoma. It acts as Janus kinase inhibitor (JAK2) **side effects:-** low blood platelet counts, fatigue, anemia, diarrhea, breath disorder, headache, nausea, dizziness etc.



C. Dacarbazine

It is an alkylating agents used for the treatment of Hodgkin lymphoma, malignant melanoma, islet cell carcinoma of the pancreas and sarcoma.

side effects:- low white blood cell count, low platelet count, vomiting, nausea, hair loss, appetite loss, tiredness, headache, fever etc.



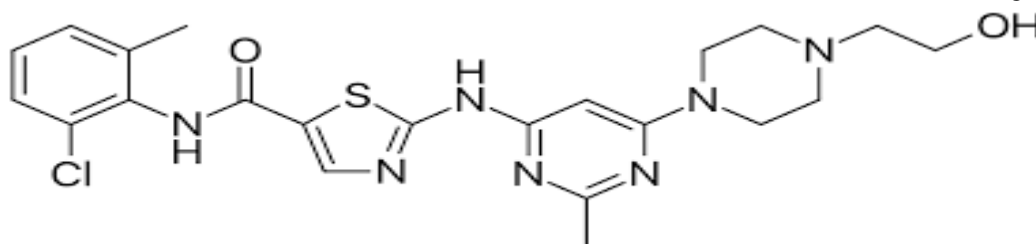
9.7 Seven nitrogen containing synthetic medicines

A. Dasatinib

It was approved in 2006 and used for the treatment of chronic myelogenous leukemia, acute

lymphocytic leukemia and prostate carcinoma. It acts a tyrosine kinase inhibitor.

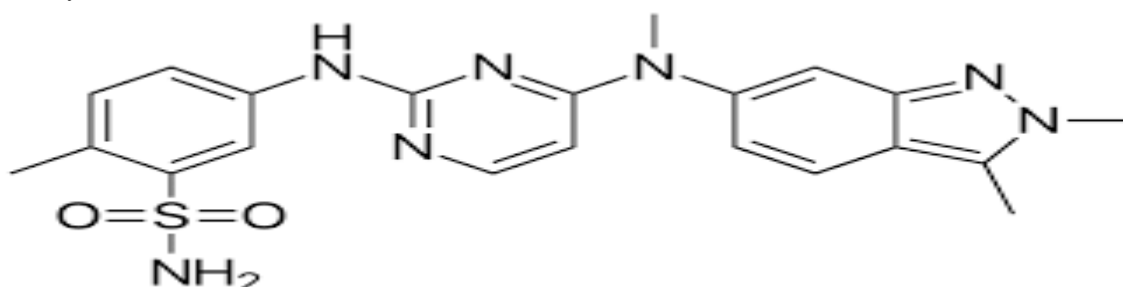
side effects:- low white blood cell count, low blood platelet count, breath disorder, rashes in skin, pain in bone and muscle, headache, fever, tiredness, nausea, diarrhea, swelling etc.



B. Pazopanib

It was approved in 2009 and used for the treatment of renal cell carcinoma (kidney cancer) and soft tissue sarcoma (a connective tissue carcinoma). It acts as tyrosine kinase inhibitor.

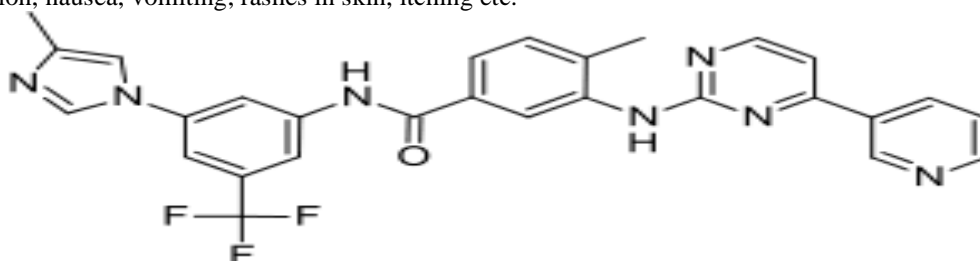
side effects:- slow heart beat, weight loss, pain in joint and muscles, abdomen pain, change in taste, appetite loss, tiredness, high blood pressure, headache, vomiting, diarrhea, nausea etc.



C. Nilotinib

It was approved in 2007 and used for the treatment of chronic myelogenous leukemia. It acts as tyrosine kinase inhibitor.

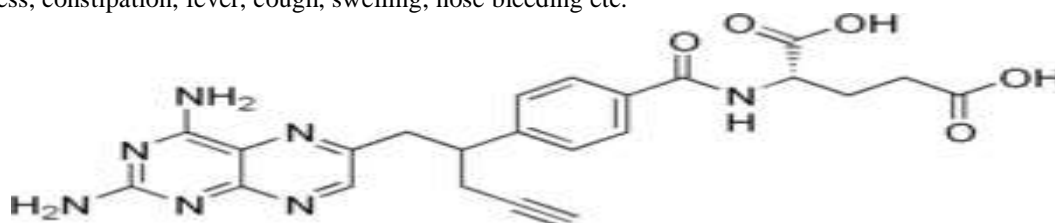
side effects:- low white blood cell count, low blood platelet count, tiredness, headache, fever, diarrhea, constipation, nausea, vomiting, rashes in skin, itching etc.



D. Pralatrexate

It was approved in 2009 and used for the treatment of peripheral T-cell lymphoma (a non-Hodgkin lymphoma). It acts as anti-metabolites.

side effects:- mouth sore, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, anemia, low white blood cell count, low platelet count, tiredness, constipation, fever, cough, swelling, nose bleeding etc.

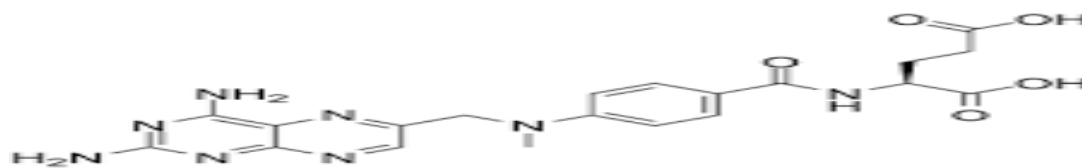


9.8 Eight nitrogen containing synthetic medicines

A. Methotrexate

It is used for the treatment of head and neck, breast, lymphoma, leukemia, osteosarcoma, lung, bladder and trophoblastic neoplasms carcinoma. It acts as anti-metabolites.

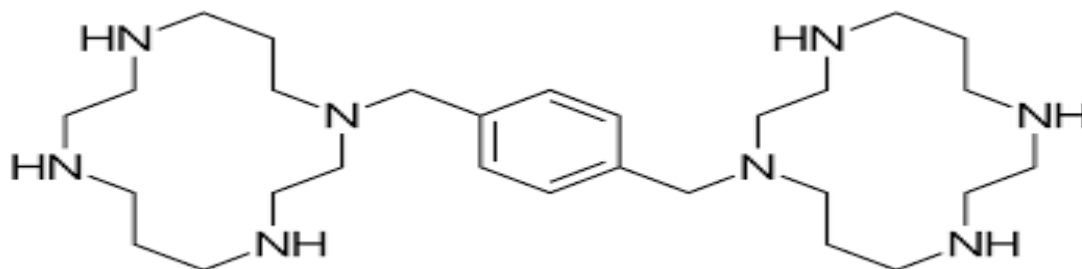
side effects:- mouth sores, diarrhea, vomiting, nausea, appetite loss, sunburn of skin, fever etc.



B. Plerixafor

It was approved in 2008 for the treatment of non-Hodgkin lymphoma and multiple myeloma. It acts as immunostimulant for mobilize hematopoietic stem cells in cancer patients.

side effects:- diarrhea, nausea, headache, pain in muscles, dizziness etc.



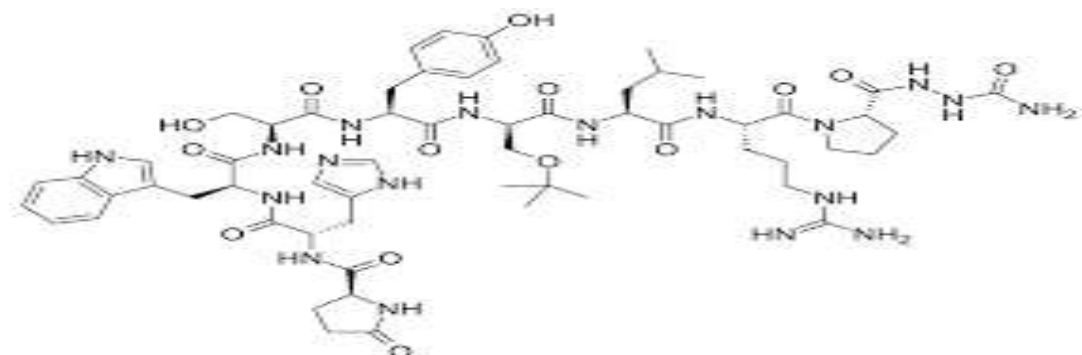
9.9 Multiple nitrogen containing synthetic medicines

A. Goserelin

It was approved in 1989 and used for the treatment of prostate and breast cancers. It is a decapeptide hormone also called luteinizing hormone releasing

hormone (LHRH). It acts gonadotropin releasing hormone super agonist (block the formation of testosterone and estrogen).

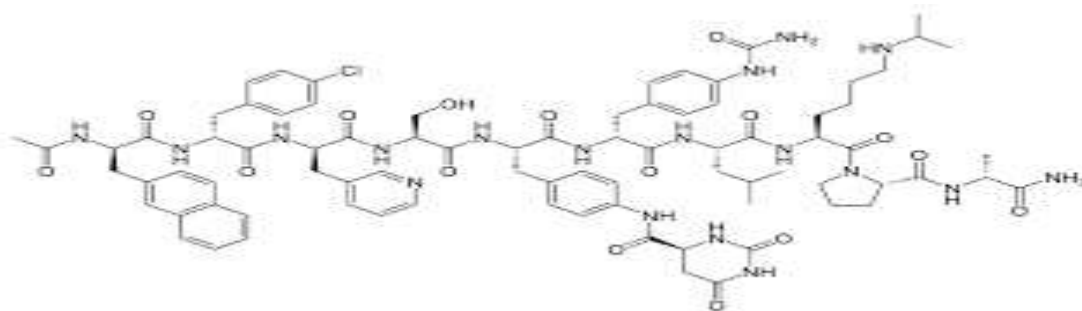
side effects:- swelling, decrease in breast size, skin disorder, depression, vaginal dryness, hot flashes, stooping menstrual period etc.



B. Degarelix

It was approved in 2008 and used for the treatment of prostate cancer. It is also a decapeptide hormone. It acts gonadotropin releasing hormone super agonist.

side effects:- sleeping disorder, hot flashes, breast enlargement, pain in breast, back pain, headache, constipation, tiredness, increase urination etc.

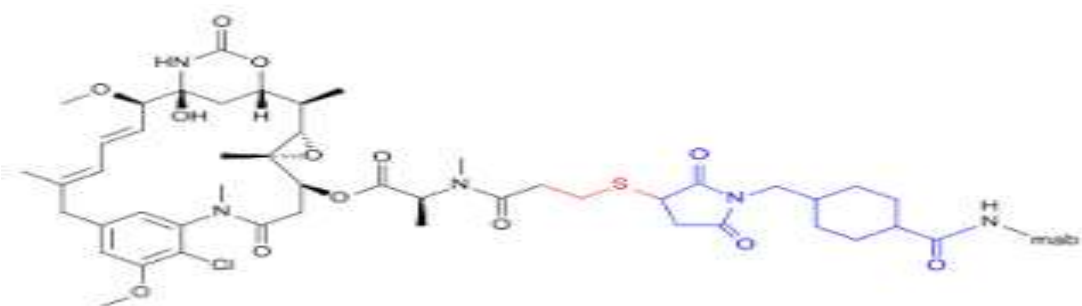


C. Trastuzumab Emtansine

It was approved in 2013 and used for the treatment of breast cancer. It contains monoclonal antibody part trastuzumab and second part is emtansine. Trastuzumab inhibit to grow cancer cell binding

from HER2/neu receptor and emtansine bind with tubulin.

side effect:- nausea, tiredness, pain in joint, bone and muscles, diarrhea, constipation, headache, low blood platelet count, nose bleeding, numbness etc.

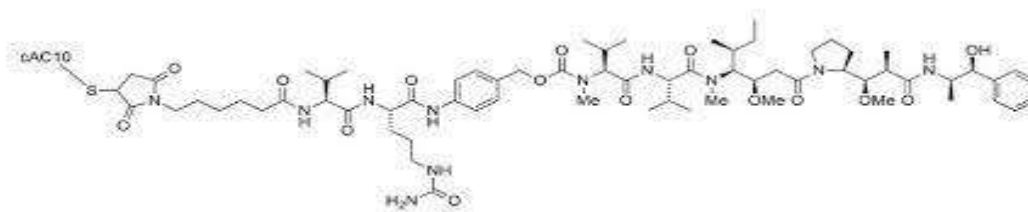


C. Brentuximab vedotin

It was approved in 2011 and used for the treatment of Hodgkin lymphoma and anaplastic large cell lymphoma (a non-Hodgkin lymphoma). It is also consist of two parts, first part is a monoclonal antibody which inhibit CD30 antigen of carcinoma

cell and second part is monomethyl auristatin E (MMAE) which bind with microtubule of carcinoma cells.

side effects:- tiredness, rashes, cough, fever, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, numbness in hands, abdomen pain etc.

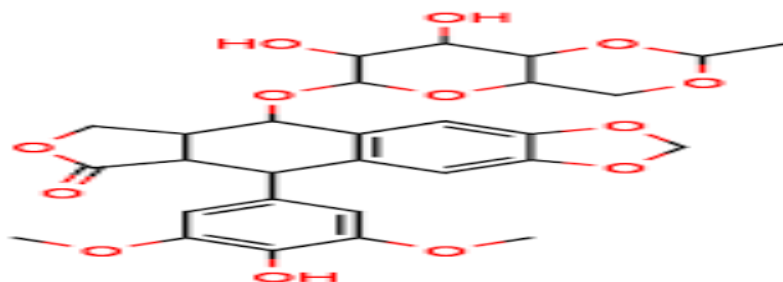


9.10. Without nitrogen containing synthetic medicines

A. Etoposide

It was approved in 1983 and used for the treatment of small cell lung and testicular cancer. It acts as topoisomerase II enzyme inhibitors.

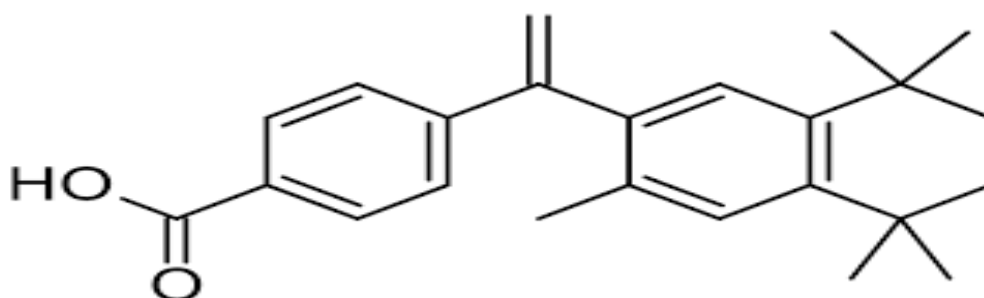
side effects:- hair loss, appetite loss, vomiting, nausea, low white blood cell count, low blood platelet count etc.



B. Bexarotene

It was approved in 1999 and used for the treatment of cutaneous manifestations of cutaneous T-cell lymphoma and also for lung and breast cancer. It is a retinoid and acts as retinoic acid receptors.

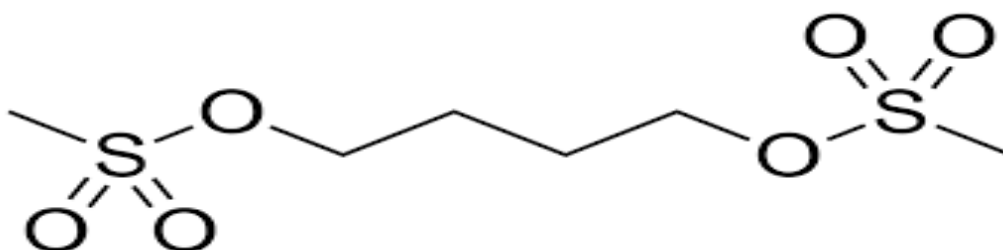
side effects:- diarrhea, headache, rashes, itching, low cholesterol disorder, high lipid levels, pain etc.



C. Busulfan

It was approved in 1999 and used for the treatment of chronic myelogenous leukemia (a white blood cell carcinoma). It acts as alkylating agents.

side effects:- low platelet count, low white blood cell count, anemia, hair loss, infertility disorder etc.



9.11. Steroidal medicines without nitrogen

Prednisone and dexamethasone

It is used for the treatment of leukemias and lymphomas as well as treatment of allergic reactions, treatment of nausea and vomiting, increase of appetite caused by various carcinoma drugs. It are a glucocorticosteroid hormone.

side effects:- sleeping disorder, stomach problem, weight gain, high blood glucose level etc.



A. Megestrol

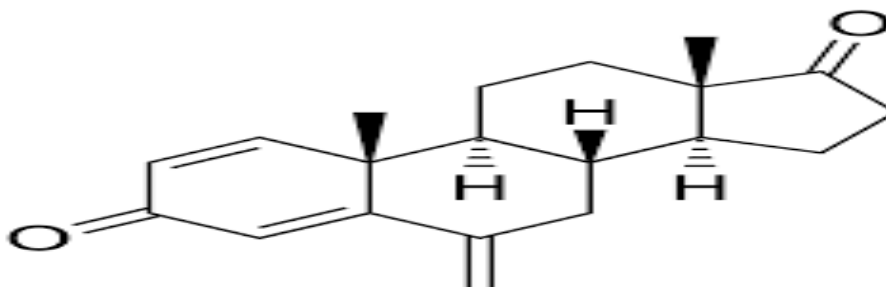
It is used for the treatment of breast and endometrial carcinoma. It acts as hormone antagonists.

side effects:- weight gain, increase in appetite, swelling in hands, legs and feet etc.

B. Exemestane

It was approved in 1999 and used for the treatment of breast cancer. It acts as aromatase inhibitors (block the formation of estrogen by inhibit aromatase) .

side effects:- pain in join and bone, hot flashes, tiredness, headache etc.

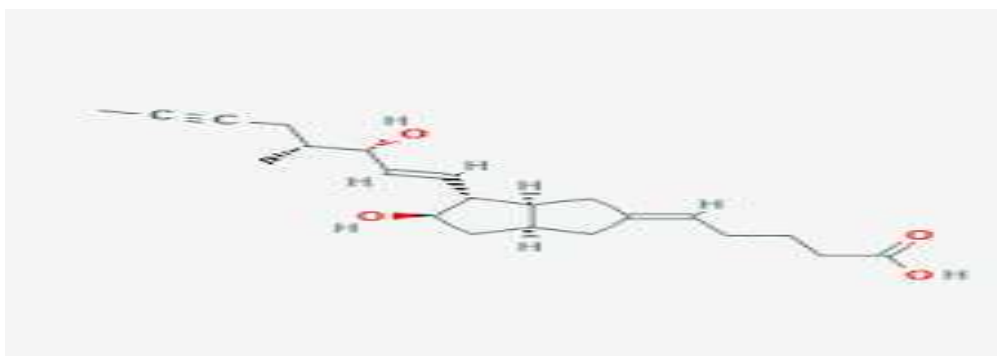


9.12. Other Protein, antibody and amino acids as anticancer medicines

A. Interleukin 2 (Aldesleukin) It was approved in 1992 and used for the treatment of skin melanomas and kidney carcinoma. It is an interleukin (a cytokine signaling molecule in the immune system). It belongs to cytokines protein group and

acts as enhancement of immune system for the fight of cancers.

side effects:- fever, headache, pain in joint and muscles, low blood pressure, rashes, weakness, breath problem, confusion, itching in skin, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea etc.



B. Alemtuzumab

It was approved in 1992 and used for the treatment of chronic lymphocytic leukemia, cutaneous T-cell lymphoma, T-cell lymphoma, multiple sclerosis as lemtrada, regimens for bone marrow, kidney and islet cell transplantation. It is a

monoclonal antibody and bind with CD52 protein of carcinoma cells.

side effects:- vomiting, fever, nausea, anemia, low white blood cell and platelet count, allergic reactions etc.

C. Bevacizumab

It was approved in 2004 and used for the treatment of colon, cervical, kidney, breast, brain, non small cell lung cancer. It is also a human monoclonal antibody and acts as angiogenesis inhibitor which inhibit vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) protein of carcinoma cells.

side effects:- headache, mouth sores, diarrhea, tiredness, weakness, back pain, skin dryness, appetite loss, nose bleeding, high blood pressure, bleeding form rectum, red and scaly skin etc.

D. Cetuximab

It was approved in 2004 and used for the treatment of head and neck cancer, metastatic colorectal cancer and metastatic non-small cell lung cancer. It is also a human monoclonal antibody and acts as angiogenesis inhibitor which inhibit vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) protein of carcinoma cells .

side effects:- itching, mouth sores, tiredness, weakness, rashes, fever etc.

9.13. Enzymes and Vaccine medicines

A. Recombinant Human Papillomavirus

It was approved in 2006 and used for prevent from cervical, anal, vaginal, vulvar (external genital organs of female) cancers. It is a virus-like particle which is not produce in human body.

B. Asparaginase (colaspase)

It is an enzyme that catalyzes the hydrolysis of asparagines (aspartic acid). Asparaginases are naturally occurring enzymes and produced by microorganisms *Erwinia chrysanthemi*.

C. Pegaspargase

It was approved in 2006 and used for the treatment of acute lymphoblastic leukemia. It is a pegylated *E. coli* L-asparagine amidohydrolase.

9.14. Inorganic medicines

A. Arsenic Trioxide (As_2O_3)

It was approved in 2000 and used for the treatment of leukemia.

side effects:- vomiting, nausea, appetite loss, abdomen pain, headache, tiredness, cough, fever, rashes etc.

B. Radium²²³ dichloride

It was approved in 2013 and used for the treatment of prostate cancer. It is a radio pharma drug and its radiation damaged DNA of cancer cell in body.

side effects:- such as nausea, diarrhea, anemia, low white blood cell and platelet count etc.

9.15. Combined drugs

Due to several side effects of a single drug, resistant of drug, unavailability of drugs for advanced carcinoma and for a better chemotherapy result combined drugs course are used for the treatment of cancer. The combined drugs are ABVD (Adriamycin, Bleomycin, Vinblastine, Dacarbazine; used in Hodgkin lymphoma), ABVE (Adriamycin, Bleomycin, Vinblastine, Etoposide, used in Hodgkin lymphoma of children), ABVE-PC (ABVE-Prednisone, Cyclophosphamide; used in Hodgkin lymphoma of children), AC (Adriamycin, Cyclophosphamide; used in breast cancer) AC-T (AC-Taxol; used in breast cancer), ADE (Cytarabine, Daunorubicin, Etoposide; used for acute myeloid leukemia in children), BEACOPP (Bleomycin, Etoposide, Doxorubicin, Cyclophosphamide, Vincristine, Procarbazine, Prednisone; used in Hodgkin lymphoma), BEP (Bleomycin, Etoposide, Cisplatin, used in malignant tumor of ovaries and testis), CAF (Cyclophosphamide, Adriamycin, Fluorouracil; used in breast cancer), CAPOX (Capecitabine, Oxaliplatin; used in Colorectal cancer), CHOP (Cyclophosphamide, Doxorubicin, Vincristine, Prednisone; used in non Hodgkin lymphoma), CMF (Cyclophosphamide, Methotrexate, Fluorouracil; used in breast cancer), COPP (Cyclophosphamide, Vincristine, Procarbazine, Prednisone; used in non Hodgkin lymphoma and Hodgkin lymphoma) COPP-ABV (COPP-Adriamycin, Bleomycin, Vinblastine; used in Hodgkin lymphoma), CVP (Cyclophosphamide, Vincristine, Prednisone; used in non Hodgkin lymphoma and Chronic lymphocytic leukemia), EPOCH (Etoposide, Prednisone, Vincristine, Cyclophosphamide, Hydroxydaunomycin; used in non Hodgkin lymphoma), FEC (Fluorouracil, Epirubicin, Cyclophosphamide; used in breast cancer), FOLFIRI (Leucovorin, Fluorouracil, Irinotecan; used in colorectal cancer, FOLFOX (Leucovorin, Fluorouracil, Oxaliplatin; used in colorectal cancer), FU-LU (Fluorouracil, Leucovorin; used in colorectal cancer), ICE (Ifosfamide, Carboplatin, Etoposide; used in non Hodgkin lymphoma and Hodgkin lymphoma), MOPP (Methotrexate, Vincristine, Procarbazine, Prednisone; used in Hodgkin lymphoma), OEPA (Vincristine, Etoposide, Prednisone, Adriamycin; used in Hodgkin lymphoma), OFF (Oxaliplatin, Fluorouracil,

Leucovorin; used in pancreatic cancer), OPPA (Vincristine, Procarbazine, Prednisone, Adriamycin, Dexamethasone; used in multiple myeloma), R-CHOP(Rituximab-CHOP; used in non Hodgkin lymphoma), R-CVP (Rituximab-CVP; used in non Hodgkin lymphoma), STANFORD V (Mechlorethamine, Doxorubicin, Vinblastine, Bleomycin, Etoposide, Prednisone; used in Hodgkin lymphoma), TAC (Docetaxel, Adriamycin, Cyclophosphamide; used in breast cancer), TPF(Docetaxel, Cisplatin, Fluorouracil; used in gastric and squamous cell carcinoma of the head and neck), VAMP (Vincristine, Adriamycin, Methotrexate, Prednisone; used in Hodgkin lymphoma), XELOX (Capecitabine, Oxaliplatin; used in colorectal cancer).

X. CONCLUSION

This review have been covered anticancer drugs classified on the bases of present of nitrogen in the anticancer drugs with their structure, actions on cancer cell and side effects, the results are showing that these medicine are effecting cancer patient with a serious side effects. These side effects are itself a disease and several times these side effects became a main reason for a patient death. Thus, it needs new efforts with new thoughts to develop an anticancer medicine without side effects as well as cost effective medicine. Classification shown that four and three nitrogen containing anticancer are available in greater number as comparison of others.

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