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TARGETED THERAPY IN SOLID TUMOURS

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Chemotherapy for cancer treatment has been one of the major medical advances in the last few decades. However, the drugs used for chemotherapy have a narrow therapeutic index, with varied toxicities ranging from nausea to life threatening anaphylactic reactions, and often the responses produced are unpredictable. In contrast, targeted therapy that has been introduced in recent years is directed against cancer-specific molecules and signaling pathways and thus has more limited nonspecific toxicities. Discoveries important for survival, proliferation, and metastasis of different cancer cells combined with technological advances have produced agents that target proteins or genes critical in the neoplastic process. Tyrosine kinases are an especially important target because they play an important role in the modulation of growth factor signaling. Targeted therapies are of various types like tyrosine kinase inhibitors, monoclonal antibodies and conjugated antibodies. In this article we would like to mention about the improvement in treatment options, increase in response to treatment to various solid tumours as well as patient compliance to the treatment with targeted therapy especially Tyrosine Kinase Inhibitors (TKIs) and monoclonal antibodies (mab).

Biography

Ravi Shankar is regarded as an eminent oncologist and having experience of visiting renowned cancer hospitals around the world, is presently working as a senior consultant and a clinical oncologist at Queen's NRI Institute of Oncology. He was Gold medalist in MBBS and has done his Post Graduation MD in Radiation Oncology from a prestigious institute CMC, Vellore 1997, passed a DNB examination in year 2001. He is becoming a European certified medical oncologist in 2010 by passing ESMO examination, and passed MRCP in medical oncology from Royal College UK September 2013. He is the first Indian to become the Fellow of ESTRO in 2013 after successfully completing the examination in Geneva Switzerland.

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