



Present and future perspective in the field of bladder cancer

Urinary bladder cancer (BCa) accounts for about 7% of all new cancers in the United States with 81,190 estimated new cases and 17,240 deaths in 2018 (1). Approximately 75% of the new diagnoses BCa will be non-muscle-invasive BCa (NMIBC) (2) affected by recurrence and progression rates of approximately 60% and 20%, respectively (3). Several unmet questions have been raised in the urological community regarding BCa. Recently, the European Association of Urology (EAU) and the European Society of Medical Oncology (ESMO) selected a panel of experts to define important topics in the field of BCa and to propose possible management solution (4,5). In this series on BCa we collected a series of articles treating some of the most important series for the urological community.

The impact of new technologies has changed the way we treat BCa, especially the use of robotic surgery has consistently increased in the last years overtaking in many centers the use of open surgery (6). The use of new technologies may increase survival expectations and quality of life of patients. The importance of an accurate surgical management in patients is pivotal in non-muscle invasive BCa, where transurethral resection (TUR) of the bladder plays an important role in defining pathological specimens and survival outcomes. Similarly, in this regard the impact of local surgery in patients affected by metastatic BCa patients is one of the new studied area in this field (7,8).

Prognostic evaluation and pathologic characterization of the TUR and radical cystectomy (RC) specimen is fundamental in defining oncological outcomes and for defining the optimal treatment. Variant histology can impact survival outcomes and similarly define optimal treatment strategies (9). Biomarker can help to implement new strategies in the field of BCa. The reader of this series can read the last findings on these topics. I would like to thank the editorial office, authors, reviewers and all the readers for their efforts in putting together this series.

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Marco Moschini

Marco Moschini, MD, PhD

Klinik für Urologie, Luzerner Kantonsspital, Lucerne, Switzerland. (Email: marco.moschini87@gmail.com)

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