GI oncology for Gastroenterologist
Where we are now and how we could move forward

SHOULD THE GASTROENTEROLOGIST TREAT DIGESTIVE CANCERS?

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european society of digestive oncology
• Who is concerned by DIGESTIVE ONCOLOGY: the patients: 350 to 450 000 new cases/year in Europe…# 150 000 colon cancers

• The oncologists and the HGE (hepato-gastroenterologists)

• What does it mean for HGE
  • gastro-oncologist
  • onco-gastro-enterologist
  • new subspeciality into our national & European societies?

• Should the gastro-enterologists administer chemotherapy and targeted therapies?
What is GI Oncology? Because it is complex, cannot be dealt with by oncologists alone and our patients need it.
Gastrointestinal Oncology

Medical Oncology

Gastro-enterology

GI Oncology
Digestive Oncology take care of all aspects of GI cancers

1- Epidemiology, prevention and screening

2- Initial work-up and staging

3- Organisation of multidisciplinary discussions, staffs, recommendations and thesaurus

4- Administration of chemotherapy and new targeted therapies...in Belgium, France, Germany, Serbia ...why not in other european countries?

5- Organisation, promotion of clinical researches

6- Follow-up after surgery

7- Detection of resectable recurrences or metastases

8- Local treatment (radiofrequency...) and palliation (stents...)
Multidisciplinary staffs on GI cancers: Once a week

-> Personalized therapeutic program (PPS)
HGE => offer a more global & complete approach?
GI oncology for Gastroenterologist

1. Where we are now

2. how we could move forward
GI oncology for Gastroenterologist

1- Where we are now

- In many countries there are not enough oncologists to treat adequately the patients.
- Oncologists believe that organs’ specialists cannot be competent but GE disagree on this point.
- In two thirds of European countries GI specialists are concerned by GI oncology and 50% at least of the EU members want to develop it.
Should the gastroenterologist treat digestive cancer?

Answer depends on whom you ask:

No – the hemato-oncologist
- lack of training
- lack of experience
- too many other things to do
- no scientific impact
- there is no need

Are there enough trained medical oncologists to do the job?
Are there enough trained medical oncologists to do the job?

Germany:

Not in all areas!

Mecklenburg-Vorpommern: 
24 hemato-oncologists

City of Munich: 
>35 hemato-oncologists

Many hemato-oncologists in Germany only do hematology!
Should the gastroenterologist treat colorectal cancer?

Yes – the gastroenterologist

- there is a continuous demand
- continuity of care for our patients
- experience?

implication of HGE in digestive oncology in France?
FRENCH NATIONAL SURVEY ON HGE
AND DIGESTIVE ONCOLOGIE (FSMAD, FFCD) - MARS 2008 –
Responses according regions (N = 1683)
Percentage of HGE participating at multidisciplinary staff on digestive cancer

In France 89% of HGE participate at multidisciplinary staff
in **France** 450 HGE
Have digestive oncology
As main activity

**France** N=1572

**Private** N = 191
**Gen Hosp** N = 108
**Univ. Hosp** N= 140
**Anti cancer centers** N=17

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Percentage of activity devoted to digestive oncology according to type of activity

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<th>Activity</th>
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<tr>
<td>0%</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>&lt; 10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>10-30%</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>&gt; 30%</td>
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<td>10-30%</td>
<td>24</td>
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<td>&gt; 30%</td>
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Germany

France

Had digestive oncology
As main activity

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<td>38</td>
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<td>10-30%</td>
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**HGE**

Have digestive oncology
As main activity

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FRENCH NATIONAL SURVEY ON HGE AND DIGESTIVE ONCOLOGIE (FSMAD, FFCD)

how many and where HGE administer chemotherapy

592 HGE administer chemotherapy > nb of oncologists

Bar chart showing the percentage of HGE administering chemotherapy always, sometimes, and never in different types of hospitals:
- Private: always 51%, sometimes 34%, never 15%
- General Hospital: always 59%, sometimes 31%, never 10%
- University Hospital: always 50%, sometimes 40%, never 10%
- Anti-cancer center: always 69%, sometimes 25%, never 6%

N=179 for Private, N=170 for General Hospital, N=153 for University Hospital, N=16 for Anti-cancer center.
FRENCH NATIONAL SURVEY ON HGE AND DIGESTIVE ONCOLOGIE (FSMAD, FFCD)

and... 425 HGE participate in **clinical trials**

France : 29% (N = 1432)
2- Where we are now:

- In Belgium (EVC, JLVL), France (PhR, CL) and Germany (WS, TS)
  - Digestive oncology does exist and GE treat most of the GI cancers
  - There are national societies (BGDO, FFCD, AIO)...
  - They have national guidelines, common with oncologists.
  - They conduct trials and participate in many international studies
  - They are participating at the EORTC-GI group
GI oncology for Gastroenterologist

• 3- Where we are now
  – The European Society of Digestive Oncology (ESDO), member of the EUG has been created.
ESDO – Foundation

Created in Prague on the 13th of June 2008!

- European Society of Digestive Oncology
- supported by many national HGE societies …
- ESDO is linked to UEGF and
- Is one branch of the of the IDCA: International Digestive Cancer Alliance

info@esdo.eu ; www.esdo.eu
Mission Statement

• to improve and propagate medical treatment of Gl-tract tumours, particularly in a multidisciplinary evidence-based approach

• to enhance and to promote the screening, early detection, primary prevention and management of (pre-) malignant disease

• to enhance and promote research

• to organise education and academic exchanges

• to develop guidelines and recommendations for the benefit of the patients

http://www.esdo.eu

info@esdo.eu ; www.esdo.eu
GI-Gastroenterology – ESDO- welcome all National Societies 
Dealing with GI cancer

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ESDO Individual Member Applications per October 20, 2010

400 Members per October 20, 2010
ESDO is Associate Member of UEGF
ESDO is represented in all UEGF Committees
Cooperation on various projects (Public Health Agenda, Heidelberg course…)

European Society of Digestive Oncology
1. Where we are now

2. how we could move forward
DIGESTIVE ONCOLOGY is a MEANINGFUL CONCEPTION for HGE … and must be a new sub-specialisation

Gastroenterologist Oncologist should administer chemotherapy in cooperation with medical oncologist and radiotherapist

=> because it may improve the treatment quality:

• BETTER INDICATIONS
• BETTER STRATEGY
• BETTER FOLLOW UP and EVALUATION &
• BETTER INTEGRATION OF PALLIATIVE and « CURATIVE » TT ?

Specially for rare tumors (NET, GITS...) and difficult situations (esophageal, biliary tract, pancreatic cancer...)
GI oncology is an integral part of gastroenterology and Hepatology.

DIGESTIVE ONCOLOGY is a MEANINGFUL CONCEPTION …!
How can appropriate training be accomplished?

At many levels (Germany, Belgium and France)

**GI oncology** is part of the GI fellowship program in Ger, Fr, Bel.

- **special qualification** for gastroenterologists after 1 or 2 years of additional education in medical oncology and digestive oncology (+/- radiotherapy)
- **Certificate**, built with oncologists has been created: „oncological gastroenterology“ of the German Society for Digestive and Metabolic Diseases (DGVS) since 2002; DESC: superior diploma of digestive oncology in France since 1994; Digestive Oncology speciality in Belgium
- **National Guidelines** for colorectal cancer (and other digestive cancers: pancreas, stomach, HCC…) DGVS. The „tncd“ in France.

- **International level**: - Joint meetings: AGA-ASCO GI; ESMO-ESDO GI, UEG-ESDO… and common ESDO-ESM guidelines
In France and in Belgium: HGE may administer chemotherapy

**GI oncology is part of the GI fellowship program**

- But… to prescribe chemot HGE **must be trained** in oncology
  - They must obtain a « superior degree of complementary speciality in digestive oncology » (DESC): **2 years**
  - They must treat pts in authorized **structures** (centralized preparation of drugs, specialized nurses…)
- In **collaboration** with medical oncologists, radiotherapist, surgeons, pharmacists…after multidisciplinary meeting.
- According …national Guidelines for digestive oncology (with other specialists) „tncd.org“ on „ffcd“ site
What organisation has been chosen in France?

- National Society of Hepato Gastroenterology in France considers digestive oncology as part of the society \( \Rightarrow \) integration in all the structures,….

- **Digestive oncology** is part of the training programme of HGE

- **French National Cancer Institute** (INCa) = coordinator (care, researches, prevention, …) integrate HGE in scientific groups.

- **A National group of digestive oncology** has been created 30 years ago= **FFCD**: Francophone Federation for Digestive Cancer = non profit association…one of the 12 associations of the national society of HGE (SNFGE)
AIMS OF THE FFCD
(FRANCOPHONE FEDERATION FOR DIGESTIVE CANCEROLOGY)

Education: HGE and oncologist (high course & universitary diploma)

Clinical trials: favoring questions on strategy
- in university H, general H, anti cancer center, private center
- Simple multicentric trials

Translationnal research

Representation => INCa, Ministery, Administration, international groups…
And the gastroenterologist may treat colorectal and other digestive cancers

…but not alone

• Successful treatment of colorectal cancer is a team effort – tumor board

- S Winaver et al; Gastroenterology 2011; 141:e13-e21.
- P Rougier et al: Digestive Liver Disease 2011
- Mulder C. World J Gastroenterol 2011; 17: 1109
- Sung J. JGH 2011; 26: 432
CONCLUSION: Gastroenterologist Oncologist does exist in many countries and are part of their national society of HGE

- Many national groups do exist on digestive Oncology
  - Belgium: BGDO
  - France: FFCD
  - Germany: AIO group...
  - Serbia: SSDO linked to ESDO

- And in many countries HGE are interested in GI oncology: Czeck Republic: Czek Society Of Digestive Oncology linked to ESDO; Netherlands; Roumaniania: RSDO linked to ESDO; Grece ?, India, China, Corea...

- All countries may join the EORTC GI group (European Organisation for Research and treatment of Cancer)

- ESDO has been created to help at the development of GI Oncology; it is a multidisciplinary non profit organisation. (www.esdo.com)
CONCLUSIONS: from an ESDO point of view…

Yes DIGESTIVE ONCOLOGY is MEANINGFUL CONCEPTION … it is a useful sub-specialisation

and Gastroenterologist Oncologist must have a place in the multidisciplinary team And the medial treatment of their patients

ESDO encourage the Hellenic Society of GH

- To create his society of GI oncology and to join ESDO
- To approach the Hellenic society of medical oncology and the university to define better how HGE, and oncologists may be specialized in digestive oncology
- To met the other organs and surgical hellenic sociaties to develop a common approach toward the ministery of health and education!
- This is the only way to cure more patients and to treat them better!