



LIVER DISEASE IN 2015: FROM IRON OVERLOADING TO HEPATITIS C INFECTION MANAGEMENT IN THALASSEMIA

Under the auspices of Foundation "Franco e Piera Cutino"

Scientific Coordinator: **A. Maggio**

May 8 2015, Palermo

Aula Magna "Maurizio Vignola", P.O. "V. Cervello" – Palermo

Programm

May 8

08:30 – 09:00 Greetings from health authorities. Introduction to the meeting.
A. Maggio, G. Cutino and G. Forni

Chairpersons: M. Midiri and M. Cottone

Which is the best tool for the determination of liver iron content?

09:00 – 09:20 **For R2***, J. Wood

09:20 – 09:40 **For R2**, T. St. Pierre

Which is the best treatment for liver disease management?

09:40 – 10:00 V. Di Marco, **New insights in management of Hepatitis C in Thalassemia**

10:00 – 10:20 S. Madonia, **What's really new in "new" treatments for Chronic Hepatitis C**

10:20 – 10:30 A. Eleftheriou, **TIF's manifesto on the treatment of Hepatitis C**

10:30 – 10:40 Discussion

10:40 – 11:00 A. Maggio, **The rationale and advantage of LIC-network: results from 3 years activity**

11:00 – 11:10 Discussion

11:10 – 11:20 Coffee – Break

Chairperson: F. Gioia

Criticisms and solutions in determination of LIC-R2: experience of single center

11:20 – 13:10 **Round Table between Radiologists**, with the participation of: F. Barbiera, G. Bellissima, E. Chiodi, R. De Ritis, D. De Falco Alfano, L. Tesè, G. Polizzi, V. Santoro, D. Schembari, G. Vaccaro, S. Zappavigna.

13:10 – 14:10 Lunch

Chairperson: A. Filosa

Usefulness of LIC-R2 in the management of iron overloading in patients with Thalassemia

14:10 – 16:40 **Round Table between Hematologists and Pediatricians**, with the participation of: G. Abbate, C. Argento, S. Bagnato, V. Caruso, M. R. Gamberini, G. Geranio, C. Gerardi, R. Giugno, E. Oliva, L. Pitrolo, A. Quota, A. Raffaele, M. Rizzo, R. Rosso, V. Spadola.

General Brain Storming on "Where are we going?"

16:40 – 16:50 Discussion

Chairperson: A. Ceci

Doctors meet Associations: questions, concerns and suggestions by the patients

16:50 – 17:50 **Discussion** with the participation of: M. Bianchi – United Onlus; A. Eleftheriou – T.I.F.; – L. Giambone – Lega Italiana per la Lotta contro le Emopatie ed i Tumori dell'Infanzia – Regione Sicilia Onlus; A. Iacono – Fondazione Giambone; S. Mangano – Ass. Piera Cutino Onlus; V. Orlandi – A.L.T.; G. Abbate, C. Argento, S. Bagnato, V. Caruso, M. R. Gamberini, G. Geranio, C. Gerardi, R. Giugno, E. Oliva, L. Pitrolo, A. Quota, A. Raffaele, M. Rizzo, R. Rosso, V. Spadola; F. Barbiera, G. Bellissima, E. Chiodi, R. De Ritis, D. De Falco Alfano, L. Tesè, G. Polizzi, V. Santoro, D. Schembari, G. Vaccaro, S. Zappavigna.

18:50 – 18:00 **Conclusions:** A. Maggio

Scientific Rationale

The most recent method about Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) R2, made by St. Pierre, is an alternative procedure to needle liver biopsy for the measurement of LIC. In this case the measurements of LIC are taken from proton transverse relaxation rates (R2), in aqueous paramagnetic solutions by magnetic resonance imaging. Accuracy of MRI-R2 is highest, because this method measures iron concentration of the whole organ. Therefore, its accuracy is highest when you have heterogeneity distribution of LIC (i.e. persons suffering from cirrhosis). Levels of iron concentration estimated by MRI-R2 show a consistent correlation with the ones measured by needle biopsy. This method could help to detect patients with liver iron overload needing to change chelation treatment. LIC-NET Project, developed by Association "Piera Cutino Onlus", has the intent to build an International network for using and sharing MRI-R2 method for the accurate determination of the LIC in all secondary hemochromatosis setting. Therefore, the liver iron overload is more and more important for evaluating risk.

Contacts

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