

## **EP-41 - (43) - NEW TREATMENTS FOR HEPATITIS C IN CIRRHOTIC PATIENTS – A SINGLE CENTER EXPERIENCE**

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Background: The widespread use of direct acting agents (DAA) has allowed treatment of patients with cirrhosis due to hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection. However, its long term safety and prognostic impact is still debated. The aim of the study was to evaluate liver function and development of cirrhosis complications in patients with HCV cirrhosis and sustained virologic response (SVR) after DAA treatment. Methods: Retrospective single centre observational cohort study including patients with cirrhosis caused by HCV infection treated with direct acting antivirals (DAA) since February 2015 until March 2016. Diagnosis of cirrhosis was based on liver biopsy and/or transient elastography. SVR was defined as undetected HCV-RNA determined 24 weeks after the end of DAA treatment. Results: Twenty-nine patients were included, 14 male with a mean age of 57 years. Patients receive different combinations of DAA: ledipasvir/sofosbuvir (n=19), sofosbuvir/daclatasvir (n=1) and sofosbuvir/simeprevir (n=1). The majority of patients had HCV genotype 1 (n= 13), the remaining had genotype 2 (n=1) and genotype 4 (n=7). At baseline, 85.7% of patients had a Child-Pugh(CP) class A and 14.3% CP-B. At week 24 after treatment, we observed an improvement in 2 patients CP to CP-A. The remaining patients showed stable disease at week 24. Concerning MELD scores, 22 patients showed a decrease or maintenance of the score. Only 7 patients showed increased scores at follow up week 24 compared to baseline values. Concerning complications of cirrhosis, we observed development of ascites in 1 patient and encephalopathy in another patient 24 weeks after treatment. Conclusion: In real life practice, treatment of hepatitis C cirrhosis is safe and SVR allows for stabilization of the disease and hopefully a significant reduction of complications. However, follow up of these patients is warranted, as complications may still occur and the extent of liver recovery is unclear.