Alcorn, J., Biyani, S., Weston, S., Sundaram, R., Burton, Rob, Topping, Annie and Stephenson, John

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Retrospective analysis of patients’ experience to intravesical Bacillus Calmette-Guerin (BCG)

J. Alcorn, S. Biyani, P. Weston, S. Sundaram, R. Burton, A. Topping, J. Stephenson
Why & what did we do?

Why?

• Gold standard

• Bladder cancer incidence rates are highest in developed countries, especially Northern America and Europe

• BCG treatment induction & maintenance has significant benefits, but also has significant side effects that tend to be seen within the first 12 months of treatment

• To analyse the reasons for treatment interruption in everyday clinical practice in a large district hospital
How did we do it?

• Appropriate ethical approval
• Quantitative data
  – 01/01/04 – 31/12/11
  – Retrospective case note review of 234 cases
  – Diagnosis of NMIBC, grade 3 Ta/1 or CIS, aged 18 years or over
  – Connaught Strain
  – Administered as per SWOG
  – Collected using a specially designed data extraction tool
  – Convenience sample
  – Analysed through IBM SPSS v20
What did we find?

• Issues
  – Data extraction tool
  – Paper to electronic
  – Recorded information

• Results
  – 61% > 70yrs. From these:
    – 92% completed induction, 80% started maintenance
    – 56% completed 1 year and 5% completed 3 years
    – 43% received counselling
    – 10% nurse specialist contact details
    – 65% had at least 1 symptom (45% within 35 days)
    – 40% experienced pain
Conclusion & next steps

- **Conclusion**
  - Severe toxicity resulted in discontinuation of therapy in the majority
  - The majority withdraw in the first year
  - Surprising that those who had contact with a nurse specialist or received written information were more likely to withdraw
  - Targeted support

- **Next steps**
  - Interview patients who have withdrawn for their experience
  - Look at the consultation e.g. grade of Dr
  - Review our practice