

Press release

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Basic information

Name: Marianne Ørum Email: maroer@rm.dk Phone: 30463669

Department of: Clinical Medicine

Main supervisor: Else Marie Damsgaard

Title of dissertation: Comprehensive Geriatric Assessment and tailored follow-up in older patients with cancer

Date for defence: 3/6 2020 at (time of day): 14.00 Place: Online

Press release (Danish)

Ny viden om ældre kræftpatienters behov for geriatriske interventioner og effekten af geriatrisk intervention på ældre kræftpatienters evne til at gennemføre kræftbehandling

Et nyt ph.d.-projekt fra Aarhus Universitet, Health. Projektet undersøger ældre kræftpatienters generelle helbredsstatus samt effekten af geriatriske interventioner på kort-tids overlevelsen samt evnen til at gennemføre kræftbehandling. Projektet er gennemført af Marianne Ørum, der forsvaret det d. 3/6 2020.

Kræft er en sygdom, der primært rammer ældre personer. Eftersom befolkningen ældes, ser vi et øget antal af kræfttilfælde. Ældre personer har ofte flere sygdomme og deraf følgende varierende helbredsstatus. Comprehensive Geriatric Assessment (CGA) er en metode til at vurdere helhedsbilledet af en ældre persons helbred. Ud over en vurdering af helbredsstatus inkluderer CGA også initiering af behandling og opfølgning på identificerede problemer. Forekomst af skrøbelighed er sparsomt beskrevet hos ældre danske kræftpatienter, ligesom det er uklart om CGA kan øge de ældre patienters evne til at gennemføre kræftbehandling og øge deres overlevelse.

Vi undersøgte patienter på 70 år eller derover med kræft i: hoved og hals, lunger, øvre del af fordøjelseskanalen samt tyk- og endetarm. Ved CGA blev 13% af kræftpatienterne vurderet til at være friske, 35% sårbare og 52% skrøbelige. Vi fandt en lavere korttids dødelighed hos patienter, der havde modtaget CGA sammenlignet med patienter, der ikke havde modtaget CGA. Vi fandt en mulig tendens til at gennemførelse af kræftbehandlingen blev styrket ved CGA inklusiv en skræddersyet opfølgning. Dette ph.d.-projekt klarlægger ældre kræftpatienters almene helbredsstatus og bidrager med viden om effekten af CGA hos ældre kræftpatienter.

Forsvaret af ph.d.-projektet er offentligt og finder sted den 3/6 2020 kl. 14.00 . Forsvaret kan tilgås via Aarhus Universitetshospitals online møderum. Titlen på projektet er ”Comprehensive Geriatric Assessment and tailored follow-up in older patients with cancer”. For at deltage i forsvaret online kan man kontakte: Sekretær Ingelise Aagaard, e-mail: ingeaaga@rm.dk. For yderligere oplysninger kan man kontakte PhD-studerende Marianne Ørum, e-mail: maroer@rm.dk , tlf. 30463669.

Bedømmelsesudvalg

Jens Meldgaard Bruun, MD, PhD, Professor (formand)

Steno Diabetes Center

Aarhus Universitetshospital, Danmark

Siri Rostoft, MD, PhD, Associate Professor

Geriatric Department

Oslo Universitetshospital, Norge

Jesper Ryg, MD, PhD, Associate Professor

Department of Geriatric Medicine

Odense Universitetshospital, Danmark

Press release (English)

Comprehensive Geriatric Assessment and tailored follow-up in older patients with cancer

A new PhD project from Aarhus University investigates the health condition of older danish patients with cancer and the impact on short-term mortality as well as the ability to adhere to cancer treatment. The project was carried out by Marianne Ørum, who is defending her dissertation on 3/6 2020.

Cancer is primarily a disease of older persons. As the population is ageing, we observe an increase in cancer incidence. Comprehensive Geriatric Assessment (CGA) is a method to assess older persons' level of frailty. In addition to assessing multiple aspects of health, CGA also includes initiation of treatment and follow-up on the identified problems. The prevalence of frailty in older cancer patients is sparsely described in a Danish population, and the impact of CGA on survival is still unclear. It is unknown whether a tailored follow-up after a CGA has an impact on the ability to complete cancer treatment.

We investigated patients aged 70 years or older who were referred for oncology treatment with cancer of the head and neck, lungs, upper and lower gastrointestinal canal.

CGA classified 13% of the patients as fit, 35% vulnerable and 52% frail. Short-term mortality was lower in patients with baseline CGA. We found a possible tendency towards improved adherence to completion of the planned cancer treatment within 90 days in patients with tailored follow-up after CGA.

This PhD-project sheds light on the general health status of older patients with cancer. Furthermore, it contributes with knowledge on the impact of CGA in older patients with cancer.

The defence is public and takes place on 3/6 2020 at 14.00. The defence will be conducted online by using the meet-room platform by Aarhus University Hospital . To attend the defence online, please contact Ingelise Aagaard, e-mail: ingeaaga@rm.dk. For any additional information, please contact PhD student Marianne Ørum, email: maroer@rm.dk, Phone +45 3046 3669.

Assessment Committee

Jens Meldgaard Bruun, MD, PhD, Professor (Chairman)

Steno Diabetes Center

Aarhus University Hospital

Denmark

Siri Rostoft, MD, PhD, Associate Professor

Geriatric Department

Oslo University Hospital

Norway

Jesper Ryg, MD, PhD, Associate Professor

Department of Geriatric Medicine

Odense University Hospital

Denmark

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