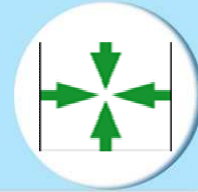


The role of the Clinical Trial Research Nurse in the management of active surveillance protocols

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INTRODUCTION

The role of the Clinical Trial Research Nurse (CTRN) in the management of patients (pts) on Active Surveillance (AS) **protocols**.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

CTRN's *tasks*.

- Helping the medical oncologist during the first visit;
- **Enrollement** → Proposing to the pts the participation in BIOTECA protocol (informed and blood and urine samples collection);
- **Follow up** → Blood collection after 12 months (before the biopsy) and then one sample per year;



- ✓ Collection of biological material;
- ✓ Labeling;
- ✓ Laboratory;
- ✓ Database;
- ✓ Planning the next follow-up collection

- Evaluating the mpMRI of pts on AS on a weekly basis;



- ✓ If no lesions or PI-RADS score < 2 lesions → no targeted
- ✓ If PI-RADS score ≥ 3 lesions → CTRN submits the case to the PCU Core Team experts meeting (urologists, radiation oncologists, medical oncologists and the dedicated radiologists) in order to determine the need for a fusion biopsy.

- Since 2015 the CTRS is taking part to weekly Tumor Boards .



- ✓ To schedule the cases to be discussed ;
- ✓ To prepare the summary of the case, by specifying the diagnostic question and include the anamnesis.
- ✓ To take note of the decisions made by the clinicians
- ✓ To inform the patient about the decision taken.

- Scheduling pts for fusion biopsy.

RESULTS

- AS: 505/1036 pts were enrolled since the introduction of CTRS up to 2018.
- BIOTECA: 231 pts were enrolled. 22 pts (9.5%) dropped-out from the study, generally because of upsizing or upgrading of the biopsy.
- Since 2015, a total of 398 mpMRI and 217 fusion biopsy are performed.
- Since 2015, a total of 914 pts are discussed by multidisciplinary team, mainly for PSA DT, enrollement in AS or Watchful Waiting evaluation of mpMRI or other stadiation exams.

CONCLUSIONS

The role of the CTRN as an **active figure** of the multidisciplinary management of prostate cancer pts is effective and efficient in supporting the inclusion of pts in clinical trials, improving pts' compliance and adherence to protocols, facilitating the synergy among specialists of the multidisciplinary team .

By participating in the multidisciplinary activities of the Prostate Cancer Unit the CTRN has **gained experience** of interdisciplinary interaction and coordinated management of prostate cancer pts.