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WEB AD

Pilot Study of Bevacizumab in Patients with Recurrent or Progressive Primary Brain Tumors

Lay Title: Bevacizumab for Primary Brain Tumors

Recurrent (those that have come back) or progressive (those that have gotten worse) primary (those originating in the brain) brain tumors are typically extremely aggressive tumors that rapidly multiply. Due to their poor prognosis and lack of significant increase in life expectancy, novel therapeutic approaches are needed for the majority of patients with primary brain tumors. One potential therapeutic avenue involves targeting blood vessels that supply brain tumors.

Typically, primary brain tumors have a high number of arteries containing factors that stimulate the formation of new blood vessels such as VEGF (vascular endothelial growth factor).

Bevacizumab (BZB), a FDA-approved drug primarily used in cancers such as breast, colon and prostate, is an antibody (a substance that stops the growth of certain toxins and elements). BZB selectively binds to VEGF to stop it from forming new blood vessels that would bring nutrients allowing for the further growth of tumors.

Ondansetron, a FDA-approved anti-nausea drug, is typically used with BZB to help prevent any nausea associated with BZB administration.

The purpose of this study is to evaluate the safety and toxicity of BZB in patients with recurrent or progressive primary brain tumors. Every two weeks, Ondansetron 8mg will be administered IV (intravenously – through the vein) 30 minutes prior to BZB administration IV at the dose of 10 mg/kg.

The data obtained through this pilot study will aid in possible treatment of future patients with brain tumors.

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