

CLINICAL CASE STUDY

Oral Therapy

SITUATION

64F "Jane Smith" presented with severe back pain found to have thoracic bone lesion consistent with metastatic disease.

• Investigations:

- Biopsy confirms ER+/PR+/HER2 negative disease consistent with breast cancer
- MRI: thoracic partial cord compression
- Staging scans: bone only disease (other spinal lesions but nil at risk of compromise) and breast primary

Treatment

- Surgical decompression completed and discharged to home as was able to undertake self-care
- Completed radiotherapy as an outpatient
- First line metastatic breast cancer therapy started as outpatient
- Letrozole tablet daily
- Ribociclib (tablet 21 days of 28-day cycle)
- Denosumab 120mg monthly injection delivered by GP

• Improvements:

- Staging improving, cancer markers improving

Side effects

Joint aches, reduced mobility, reduced strength, muscle wasting, weight gain

• Sarcopenia screening

- SARC-F = 5 (at risk of sarcopenia)
- Nutrition assessment and intervention
 - Recent weight gain related to hospitalisation, reduced mobility and capacity to exercise
 - PG-SGA 3 well-nourished (A)
 - Muscle mass assessed. ALM/height (m)2= 5 kg/m2
 - Educated on high protein diet to improve muscle mass
- Physical assessment and intervention
 - Muscle strength assessed. Hand grip strength = 14 kg
 - Muscle function assessed. Short physical performance battery = 5 pts
 - Individualised exercise prescription to improve muscle mass, strength and function
 - Sarcopenia diagnosed using EWGSOP2 diagnostic criteria
- Multidisciplinary Care
 - Referral to occupational therapy for fatigue management

WHAT care was provided? (Action)

WHO delivered the care? (Actor)	 Screening for sarcopenia – Nurse specialist Nutrition assessment and intervention +/- sarc diagnosis – Dietitian Physical assessment and intervention +/- sarc diagnosis – Exercise physiologist
WHERE was care delivered? (Context)	Outpatient setting Private Cancer Centre
WHO received care? (Target)	Adult outpatient (≥18 years) undergoing oral therapy
WHEN was care provided? (Time)	 Medical Oncology - reviewed every 3 months in conjunction with scans Nutrition and exercise physiology – fortnightly review over the course of 12 weeks
OUTCOMES	 Weight gain stabilised Muscle mass improved Functional capacity increased Participating in regular exercise 2-3 times per week