

Breast cancer, diabetes mellitus and usefulness of immunonutrition

Sir,

I read the recent publication by Kaplan *et al.* on diabetes mellitus and prognosis in early-stage breast cancer women with a great interest.^[1] Kaplan *et al.* suggested that “diabetes is an independent prognostic factor for breast cancer.”^[1] Hence, the management of diabetes in patients with breast cancer seems to be a useful management in cancer therapy. Adding to the standard use of antidiabetic drug, the use of immunonutrition seems to be useful.^[2] At least, using supplementations, especially for branch chain amino acid (BCA), can result in improvement of insulin resistance and further reduce tumorigenesis in animal models.^[2] Here, the

author would like to share his experience on using BCA in a patient with breast cancer. The change of insulin can be seen in this case. This case received BCA supplementation under control of a clinical nutritionist for 1 month. The pre-immunonutrition insulin level was 17.90 and the post-immunonutrition insulin level was 56.23. In addition, decreasing levels of CA15-3 could also be observed (the decreased amount is equal to 4.07). Based on these observations, it can be confirmed that management of diabetes in breast cancer will be useful. Use of BCA helps adjust insulin status and might further be helpful in the control of tumor progression. This case can be supporting evidence to the previous publications on this area.^[1,2]

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