PREVALENCE AND MANAGEMENT OF DASATINIB-INDUCED GASTROINTESTINAL DISORDERS: A STUDY AT OUR HOSPITAL

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Retrospective study of 26 patients receiving dasatinib for chronic myeloid leukemia found frequent gastrointestinal symptoms and endoscopic abnormalities, including occult bleeding in nine cases and colonic mucosal changes in most patients who underwent colonoscopy.

KEY POINTS

- Among 26 patients treated with dasatinib (median duration 48 months), gastrointestinal symptoms included chronic diarrhea in 4 cases, bloody stools in 3 cases, and occult gastrointestinal bleeding in 9 cases.
- Colonoscopy in 13 patients revealed rough mucosa in the right colon in 10 patients, with one case showing pseudomembranous colitis-like findings and two cases showing inflammatory polypoid-like findings.
- Hemoglobin decreased from 13.1±2.2 before treatment to 12.3±1.1 after one year (change -0.8, p=0.08), suggesting a trend toward anemia.
- Non-gastrointestinal adverse events included pleural effusion in 10 cases, hematotoxicity in 8 cases, and edema in 7 cases.
- The authors suggest that drug-induced enteritis due to dasatinib should be considered as a differential diagnosis when evaluating gastrointestinal symptoms in patients receiving this medication.

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