



Request for information from the Swiss Embassy in Tbilisi

Availability of treatment

Reference no. Mam

Subject: m, 55 years old, from Gldani, Georgia

Diagnosis: **POEMS syndrome** (osteosclerotic myeloma, Crow-Fukase syndrome, Takatsuki disease or PEP syndrome) **due to sternal plasmocytoma with:**

- multiple mononeuritis since 2017
- monoclonal gammopathy with lambda light chains in urine (December 2019)
- elevated VEGF-A (Vascular Endothelial Growth Factor) values of 1730 pg/ml reference values 300 pg/ml) in December 2019
- Organomegaly with splenomegaly
- Skin affection with multiple hemangiomas and hyperpigmentation
- Recurrent oedemas with spontaneously progressing anasarca
- Papilloedema, intracranial hypertension with elevated protein level in cerebrospinal fluid of 1463 mg/l in December 2019

Endocrine problems

- Partialempty sella syndrome (MRI May 2018) with conservation of parts of the pituitary gland
- Erectile dysfunction of multifactorial origin with conserved libido
- Partially compensated hypogonadotropic hypogonadism possibly secondary origin
- Moderate hyperprolactinemia possibly due to stroke.
- Substituted hypothyroidism of undetermined origin
- Asymptomatic dysthyroid orbitopathy
- Prednisone -induced adrenocortical insufficiency (since May 2019).

Cardiologic problems:

Ischemic heart disease with:

- Coronagraphy July 2020 revealed mono-troncular lesions and a significant stenosis of the anterior interventricular artery.
- FFR (fractional flow reserve) of = 0,70 (0,84 while resting)
- Valvular heart disease: moderate aortic stenosis (as revealed by transthoracic echocardiography ETT in March 2019)
- Pulmonary hypertension
- History of apical segmental pulmonary embolism of the right upper lobe in April 2019) fondaparinux
- Cardiovascular risk factors:
 - Hypertension with hypertensive retinopathy grade 2
 - Hypercholesterolemia
 - History of tobacco abuse

- Vitamine B12 and iron deficiencies
- Renal artery stenosis (AKIN stage 1) in November 2019
- Sternal fibrous dysplasiaHistory of stroke August 2016 in Georgia with sequelae (paresthesia of upper right limb)

- History of hepatitis C treated in Georgia in 2016

Prescribed medication and treatment:

Since 2017 the following medication is prescribed

- Aspirine Cardio – 100 mg (filmed tablet) (acetylsalicylic acid)
- Lixiana – 60 mg (tablet) (edoxaban)
- Atovastatine – 10 mg (tablet) (atorvastatine)
- Ramipril – 5 mg – tablet (ramipril)
- Hydrocortone – 10 mg – tablet (hydrocortisone)
- Tirosint – 112 mcg – capsule (levothyroxine)
- Dafalgan – 1 g – (paracetamol)
- Tramal – 50 mg – capsule (tramadol)
- Movicol – powder (macrogol)
- Nexium Mups – 40 mg – tablet (esomeprozol)
- Calcimagon-D3 Fort 1000/800 – (calcium & colecalciferol)
- Laxoberon (sodium picosulfate)

Specialized follow-up and close monitoring of tumour (plasmocytoma) and evaluation of possible further treatment (surgery, chemotherapy).

Prognostic without treatment:

In the absence of treatment, the prognosis is most likely poor with a progression of his pathologies, particularly the POEMS syndrome.

Prognostic with treatment:

It is a very rare pathology. The prognosis is therefore difficult to make, even with adequate treatment. We hope for a stable symptomatology or even a slight clinical improvement with the treatments undertaken.

Extract from medical report of SEM, June 2020.

We kindly request your assistance concerning the following questions:

1. Is the above-mentioned medical treatment available in Georgia?

Name and location of facility (facilities):

2. Is the above-mentioned medication available in Georgia?

3. Are any alternatives to the above-mentioned medication available in Georgia?

4. If the medication is not available in Georgia, is it possible to import it from abroad? If so, who pays the costs for this medication?

5. Who provides the above-mentioned medical care in Georgia?

6. Is the health insurance taking charge of the costs for this treatment and medication?