extranodal lymphoma


M. Dragoszyński1, S. Alcacer2, I. Annetta1, L. Devito1, P. Luchetta1, M. Marquez1, E. Morgenfeld1
1Hematology, Marie Curie Oncology Hospital, Buenos Aires, Argentina

Introduction: Out of a total of 1260 cases of NHL registered at M. Curie Hospital and H. Moore Inst. in Bs As, 563 cases with extranodal localization were reported. This account for 36.74% of the total number. All patients undergo staging procedures, including CT scan of thorax, abdomen, pelvis and bone marrow biopsy. Primary extranodal lymphomas are still a controversial topic. Nodal localizations like the involvement of Waldreber’s ring, spleen and thymus are included in reports as well as disseminating extranodal sites. According Ann Arbor, we take into account patients with IE and IIE stage.

Material and methods: Population mostly, residents of Bs As and its surroundings. To a lesser extent, from the interior of the country or neighbouring countries.

Results: Distribution according to sex: males 52.05%, females 47.95%. Range of ages: 17-90 years. Average age: 56.42 years. B progeny: 406 (87.7%), T progeny: 57 (12.3%).

Histology subtypes: high grade 219 (47.03%), low grade 144 (30.97%), unclassified 100 (21.8%). 24 cases (5.18%) of HIV positive were recorded, 17-90 years. Average age: 56.42 years. B progeny: 406 (87.7%), T progeny: 57 (12.3%).

Discussion: The histologic subtypes are classified as: high grade 190 (41.04%), low grade 158 (34.12%), unclassified 115 (24.83%). 24 cases (5.18%) of HIV positive were recorded, high grade 21 and low grade 3. In the high grade there were 6 of plasmablastic NHL, 10 of extranodal NHL (36.74%) is in keeping with that of nodal NHL.

Conclusion: An analysis of the variables: age, sex, history, localization and HIV is presented. The percentage of extranodal NHL (36.74%) is in keeping with that of nodal NHL. The predominance of certain localizations, less frequent in other records, is due to the selective referrals of head and neck and ophthalmologic oncologic pathologies to M. Curie Hospital.

479 A PHASE II STUDY OF BORTEZOMIB IN PATIENTS WITH MALT LYMPHOMA

M. Raderer1, M. Troch1, C. Jonák1, M. Mullauer1, A. Puspok1, M. Formanek1, I. Poddubnaya1, D. Osmanov1
1Internal Medicine I, Oncology, Medical University Vienna, Vienna, Austria

Introduction: Treatment of MALT-lymphoma of the lung and the breast. Treatment consisted of bortezomib at a dose of 1.3 mg/m2 on days 1, 4, 8 and 11 repeated every 21 days. After 4 cycles of therapy, restaging was performed, and patients with response to treatment or stable disease continued treatment for another 4 cycles.

Results: Currently, 15 patients are evaluable for response and 16 for toxicity. The overall response rate was 75% (12/16 evaluable patients) with 8 achieving complete remission (53%) and 4 having partial response, while 3 patients had stable disease. After a median follow-up time of 20 months (range: 4–24), all patients are alive. Four patients have relapsed, while the remaining 12 continue to be in remission. A median of 8 cycles were given per patient (range: 4–8), with 2 patients discontinuing treatment after four courses. All patients except one, however, required consecutive dose reductions due to neuropathy (7 patients) or diarrhea (9 patients).

Conclusion: Judging from our data, bortezomib appears to be active in patients with MALT-lymphoma. However, a high rate of toxicities was seen in our cohort of patients due to the high initial dose, warranting further assessment of combination schedules with bortezomib at lower doses than given in our study.

480 RITUXIMAB + MACOP-B (R-MACOP-B) AND RADIOTherapy IN PRIMARY MEDIASTINAL LARGE B CELL LYMPHOMA: A SINGLE INSTITUTION EXPERIENCE

M. Kichigin1, G. Tumyan1, A. Kovrigina1, E. Sorokin1, L. Mazurok1, O. Trofimova1, I. Poddubnaya1, D. Osmanov1
1Hematology department, N.N Blokhin Russian Cancer Research Center, Moscow, Russian Federation

Introduction: Primary mediastinal (thymic) large B-cell lymphoma (PMLBCL) is recognized as a separate subtype of diffuse large B-cell lymphoma with unique clinical and immunopathologic characteristics and relatively favorable outcome. The standard of care this type of lymphoma not yet well established. The aim of our study was to evaluate the efficacy and safety of R-MACOP-B regimen followed by radiotherapy (IFRT) in PMLBCL.

Methods: Between 2004 and 2007, 21 previously untreated patients (pts) with PMLBCL were diagnosed and treated at our center. The median age was 28 years (range 18-47) and 129 (57%) were females. 12 pts had stage II and 9 stage IV; 19 (91%) presented a bulky disease and 7 (33%) had a superior vena cava syndrome; 14 (66%) had B symptoms. Median IPI score 9 pts (43%) had IPI=0-1 and 12 pts (57%)=2-3. The most frequent involved extranodal site was lung (57%), 8 (38%) pts had pleural and 6 (29%) pericardial effusions. All patients were treated with standard MACOP-B regimen, 10 pts received Rituximab (375 mg/m2 - N 4-6). Mediastinal IFRT at dose 30-36 Gy was given to 16 (76%) patients.

Results: The response rate at the completion of the program was CR/Cu=18 (85%), PR=2 (10%) and NR=1 (5%), 6 patients obtained a CR/Cu following IFRT. After a median follow up 16 months, the 2-years DFS and OS were 84% and 94% respectively. During the treatment 15 pts had different infectious and toxic complications: stomatitis – 8, pneumonia – 2, apoptosis and toxicities from pulmonary aspergillosis.

Conclusion: Our data confirms that R-MACOP-B followed by IFRT are highly effective therapeutic regimens for patients with PMLBCL, however one should be cautioned about the significant complications. Small number of pts does not allow us to link the toxicity with use of Rituximab. Further studies are needed to finally define value of R-MACOP-B and its superiority over R-CHOP.

481 LOW GRADE B - CELL BRONCHIAL ASSOCIATED LYMPHOID TISSUE (BALT) LYMPHOMA THAT SIMULATE A LUNG’S LOCALIZATION OF HODGKIN’S LYMPHOMA

G. Gargi1, F. Casarza1, G. AntuZZ1, M. Musacchio1, G. RomoZZ, A. Polio1
1Oncology, U.O.C Oncology and Hematology - O.C. “A. Cardarelli” - ASREMM, Campobasso, Italy

Introduction: We describe the case of a man who was diagnosed a BALT after the RC of Hodgkin lymphoma. The combination of a BALT with Hodgkin’s lymphoma is exceptional.

Materials and Methods: A 62 years old patient was undergone to a cervical node biopsy that depose for a sarcosidosis and started therapy with prednisone without improvement. One year ago, for the progression of disease, the patient was undergone a new node biopsy/sender cervical site and tonsil left that conclude with lymphoma of Hodgkin, nodular sclerosis. The staging was IV-A for the lung’s lesions-PET positive and a localization at tonsil left. ABVD chemotherapy was started and after two cycles early-Pet was negative. After six cycles he was in RC - PET negative. After three months from the end of chemotherapy, for cough and dyspnoea, the patient was subjected to pulmonary tomography that documented consolidate areas, PET positive, of the lung. A lung’s biopsy make the diagnosis of lymphoma of B lymphocytes - Malt (BALT). The patient started treatment with chlorambucil and rituximab (Gisl protocol) and today he is in RC with PET negative.

Discussion: BALT originates from the marginal zone and by invading the bronchial epithelial tissue, gives rise to the lymph epithelial lesion. A majority of the patients are asymptomatic and pulmonary lesions are incidental. The disease is often localized, responds favourably to local treatment, has a favourable prognosis and is associated with long-term survival.

Conclusion: The two diseases of lymphoma were simultaneous at the time of diagnosis and conventional treatment for the Hodgkin’s lymphoma hadn’t led to remission of BALT. Probably the treatment with Rituximab, given for CD 20+, associated with chlorambucil, has contributed to the remission of BALT. We report this case for its peculiarities and its extreme rarity.
463 RAISED LEVELS OF CXCL12 AND CXCL13 IN CEREBROSPINAL FLUID OF PATIENTS WITH CNS LYMPHOMA

L. Fischer1, P. Kiewe1, S. Pfeiffer1, A. Korfel1, H. Cakiroglu2, E. Thiel1

1Hematology, Oncology & Transfusion Medicine, Charite´ Campus Benjamin Franklin, Berlin, Germany, 2Medical Immunology, Charite´ Campus Mitte, Berlin, Germany

Background: Homing of malignant lymphocytes to the CNS may play a role in the pathogenesis of CNS lymphoma (CNSL). Chemokine receptors CXCR4 and CXCR5 are expressed in CNS lymphoma. We examined the levels of corresponding chemokines CXCL12 and CXCL13 in the cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) of CNSL patients.

Methods: Matching CSF and serum samples from 23 patients with CNS lymphoma and control samples from ten patients with brain tumors, hydrocephalus or other conditions were collected. Chemokine concentrations were measured using commercially available ELISA kits (Quantikine Immunoassay, R&D Systems, Minneapolis) according to the manufacturer’s instructions. Results were confirmed by duplicate measurements.

Results: Median CSF concentrations of CXCL12 and CXCL13 were significantly higher in patients with CNS lymphoma compared to controls (Table). Median serum CXCL12 levels were higher in CNSL patients (2171 ± 1316 pg/ml, p=0.03) whereas CXCL13 levels did not differ in patient and controls (70 ± 39 pg/ml, p=0.80). There was no correlation of serum and CSF levels for both chemokines. In three CNSL patients serial CSF samples could be analysed during successful chemotherapy, showing a 1 to 10-fold decrease of chemokine concentrations.

Conclusion: CXCL12 and CXCL13 can be measured in the CSF of CNS lymphoma patients at higher concentrations. The increase of CSF CXCL13 in CNSL patients considering the low serum levels points to a production within the CNS, possibly by the tumor or the environment. Further analyses are needed in order to define the role of both chemokines in CNSL and to establish their value for diagnosis and follow up.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chemokine</th>
<th>CSF levels in pg/ml median (range)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Control</td>
<td>CNSL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CXCL12</td>
<td>115 (0-2442)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CXCL13</td>
<td>17 (1-187)</td>
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464 ISOLATED BRAIN RELAPSE OF SYSTEMIC NON-HODGKIN LYMPHOMA: TUMOR RESPONSE AND SURVIVAL IN PATIENTS TREATED WITH ENHANCED CHEMOTHERAPY DELIVERY TO THE CNS

N.D. Doolittle1, E. Epner2, E.A. Neuwelt3

1Neurology, Oregon Health & Science University, Portland, OR, United States, 2Hematology/Oncology, Oregon Health & Science University, Portland, OR, United States, 3Neurology and Neurosurgery, Oregon Health & Science University and VA Medical Center, Portland, OR, United States

Introduction: Isolated brain parenchyma relapse, a rare complication of systemic non-Hodgkin lymphoma, is potentially treatable. Long-term survival is possible in some patients.

Methods: We retrospectively reviewed patients with isolated brain relapse treated with enhanced chemotherapy delivery to the CNS (brain-brain barrier disruption [BBBD]) at OHSU, between 1980 and 2007. Eligible patients had CR following initial treatment of systemic lymphoma; none had bone, spine, or leptomeningeal involvement at systemic diagnosis. Information regarding patient characteristics, management and outcomes was collected.

Results: 8 patients (6M/2F) were identified. Median age was 54 yrs (34-65 yrs). 4/8 had ECOG PS greater than 2. Diagnostic brain tumor specimen was obtained in 7/8 patients; tumor histology was large B-cell lymphoma in 7/8. Treatment for brain relapse was BBBD with methotrexate-based chemotherapy (IA) (2.5 gm/day for 2 consecutive days every 4 wks, for up to 12 mon) in 6/8 patients. 4 patients achieved CR in the CNS. 2/6 who achieved CR underwent consolidation with HDCT with peripheral blood stem cell (PBSC) or bone marrow transplantation. 4 patients treated with BBBD alone who achieved CR survived 3.3, 1.5, 2.2, 3.5 yrs after relapse. One patient who received HDCT with PBSC transplantation is alive 8 yrs after relapse, and 1 died of septic shock. 2/6 achieved PR after BBBD and survived 0.9, 4.2 yrs. 4/8 died of disease progression, either CNS (4/8) or CNS/systemic (1/8). The most prevalent BBBD complications were hematologic: non-hematologic included sepsis, respiratory infection, steroid-induced confusion, and cerebellar stroke (one patient each).

Conclusions: In this small series retrospective review, CNS directed therapy yielded encouraging tumor response and survival, warranting further investigation. Similar analysis in patients with isolated brain relapse who achieve CR after BBBD, with no evidence of systemic disease, the need for consolidation with HDCT with transplantation remains a question that warrants further study.

465 PROGNOSTIC FACTORS IN THE RELAPSED OR PROGRESSING PRIMARY CNS LYMPHOMA PATIENTS RECEIVED UPFRONT HIGH DOSE METHOTREXATE BASED CHEMOTHERAPY

J. Kim1, W. Kim2, C. Suh3, S. Yoon4, C. Kim5

1Department of Internal Medicine, Yonsei University College of Medicine, Seoul, Korea, Republic of, 2Department of Internal Medicine, Asan Medical Center, Seoul, Korea, Republic of, 3Department of Pathology, Seoul National University, Seoul, Korea, Republic of, 4Department of Internal Medicine, Inha University Hospital, Incheon, Korea, Republic of

Introduction: We evaluated the predictive marker for OS in the relapsed or progressed PCNSL patients initially treated with HD-MTX based CTx with or without RTx.

Material and methods: 188 PCNSL patients (median age 50 years) received HD-MTX (>1 g/m²) based CTx were collected at 17 institutions in Korea. Among them, 35 patients (19%) were relapsed and 28 patients (15%) were progressed after a median follow-up of 19 months from initial HD-MTX based CTx. The median PFS was 17.8 months in the patients with relapse and 5.1 months in the patients with progression.

Results: The median age at relapse or progression was 49 years. 55 patients (86%) had isolated CNS, 7 isolated systemic, and 2 both CNS and systemic relapse or progression. There were 23 (36%) patients with ECOG 2 and 26 (41%) patients with involvement of deep structures at relapse or progression. 52 patients (81%) received treatment: 30 (47%) systemic CTx alone, 10 (16%) RTx alone, and 10 CTx + RTx. The median OS after first relapse or first progression was 20.5 months. Treatment for relapse (versus no treatment, P=0.01) was an independent prognostic factor for OS after relapse or progression in multivariate analysis. Among the 35 relapsed PCNSL patients, longer PFS (212 months) and CR to salvage treatment were significant prognostic factors predicting improved OS after relapse in multivariate analysis (P=0.02, 0.01).

Conclusions: Salvage treatment for relapsed or progressed PCNSL patients should be performed for improving OS and longer initial PFS (312 months) or CR to salvage treatment might be good prognostic markers for OS after relapse or progression. Other prognostic markers for initial PCNSL patients including age, ECOG, LDH, CSF protein, and involvement of deep structures were not important factors in the relapsed or progressed PCNSL patients.
488 ACUTE ONSET OF SEVERE BRAIN EDEMA DUE TO INTRAVENOUS TREATMENT OF RITUXIMAB (RX) IN A PATIENT WITH PRIMARY CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM (PCNS) LYMPHOMA - CASE REPORT

T. Ito1, M. Adachi1, T. Hayakawa1, T. Morishita1, Y. Inagaki1, E. Jyo1, T. Kato1, M. Sawa1, Y. Ono1
1Division of Hematology, Internal Medicine, Anjyo Kosei Hospital, Aichi, Japan
2IOSI, Oncology Institute of Southern Switzerland, Bellinzona, Switzerland
3Dept. of Pathology, Istituto San Raffaele, Milan, Italy

Introduction: After intravenous administration (Ad), the cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) levels of Rx have been reported approximately 0.1% of serum levels. The safety, effectiveness and pharmacokinetics of direct intrathecal Ad of Rx in monkeys and also in patients with recurrent lymphomatous meningitis have been investigated in various studies. But we recently experienced a PCNS lymphoma case which represented acute severe brain edema immediately after intravenous treatment of Rx.

Patient: A 36-year-old man presented left progressive hemiparesis. CT scan and magnetic resonance imaging revealed a tumor of 2 cm in diameter at the deep portion of white matter in his right cerebral hemisphere. Clinical course: CD20 positive diffuse large B-cell lymphoma was pathologically diagnosed by CT guided probe biopsy. PET-CT scan showed the clinical stage IA. Combined modality plus Rx was chosen for his treatment strategy. Two weeks after biopsy intravenous Ad of Rx was started according to standard dose and method. Two hours after start of Rx he had increasing headache but interruption of Rx and Ad of osmotic diuretic cleared up his symptom. Resumption of Rx gave rise to headache again with hypotension and after finish of Rx his consciousness declined to coma. Emergent CT scan showed progression of local edema around tumor at basal nucleus and corona radiata, and also severe midline shift. Intensive Ad of steroid and osmotic diuretic were not effective. Emergent surgical open decompression procedure rapidly improved his deterioration. Two weeks after Rx his minor drinking of tumor were recognized. The second and last cycle of chemotherapy with Rx have been conducted safely and effectively.

Conclusion: This case might be quite rare and no other similar reports could be found in past literature. However this case should remind us of risk of causing local edema and increase of intracranial pressure by intravenous Ad of Rx to CNS lymphoma especially in early phase of first Ad. Although Rx might be hard to transmit to CSF in general, this case implies that it could increase its permeability to vessels in pathogenic lesion.

489 TREATMENT OF PRIMARY CNS LYMPHOMA WITH THE IDARAM CHEMOTHERAPY REGIMEN

R. Johnson1, K. Cwynarski2, S. Achroya1, D. El-Sharkawi2, T. Baibaustamania1, J. Ashcroft1, C. McNamara1, A. Prentice2, P. Moreton1
1Haematology, St James’s Institute of Oncology, Leeds, United Kingdom
2Haematology, Royal Free Hospital, London, United Kingdom

Introduction: Treatment for PCNS has evolved from whole brain radiotherapy (WBRT) to approaches using combination chemotherapy +/- WBRT. There is no standard schedule for steroids, methotrexate and cytarabine are the most established drugs. The outlook has improved but remains generally poor and the optimum chemotherapy / radiation strategy has yet to be established. The IDARAM chemotherapy regimen was introduced in 1998 by the UK Central and Southern Lymphoma Group, which published encouraging results in 24 patients with primary and secondary CNS lymphomas in 2004. It continues to be used in the UK but further data is not available. This abstract describes the outcome of 36 HIV -ve patients with PCNS treated with IDARAM.

Patients and methods: 36 patients with PCNS diagnosed from 1999 to 2007, whose initial therapy was with IDARAM were analysed. Median age was 57 (range 36-77, with 22/36 aged less that 69yrs). IDARAM (28 day cycle) consists of:idarubicin 10 mg/m2 IV days1+2; deamethasone 100 mg IV days 1,2,3; cytarabine 1.0 gm IV days 1+2; methotrexate 2.0 gm/m2 (over 6hrs) day 3 and intrathecal cytarabine and methotrexate on days 1 and 2. 3-4 cycles were intended depending on response and tolerance, followed by WBRT.

Results: Follow up is 3 months to 8 years. All patients had marked haematological toxicity (mainly grade 4), requiring planned in-patient care. Response data is available for 26 patients and showed: CR(10), PR(11), SD(1), PD(4) to IDARAM. Best response was seen after IDARAM alone in most cases. 14 of the 36 patients are alive (39%). 7 died early in therapy, 3 from toxicity and 4 from disease, receiving only IDARAM. One (2.7%) died from toxicity. Median age was 57 (range 36-77, with 22/36 aged less than 69yrs). IDARAM (28 day cycle) consists of: idarubicin 10 mg/m2 IV days1+2; deamethasone 100 mg IV days 1,2,3; cytarabine 1.0 gm IV days 1+2; methotrexate 2.0 gm/m2 (over 6hrs) day 3 and intrathecal cytarabine and methotrexate on days 1 and 2. 3-4 cycles were intended depending on response and tolerance, followed by WBRT.

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Conclusion: IDARAM +/- WBRT is in common use in the UK but data is limited. The regimen is suited to younger / fitter patients with curative intent. Excellent initial responses are seen, as is durable survival for a significant minority. Updated survival data, toxicity and neurocognitive information will be presented.

490 RADIOTHERAPY FOR OCULAR ADNEXAL NON-HODGKIN Lymphoma: REPORT OF 32 CASES

J.N. Vinogradova1, N.V. Ilyin1, E.I. Ivanova1
1Radiology, Russian Scientific Center for Radiology and Surgical Technologies, St. Petersburg, Russian Federation

Introduction/background: Primary ocular adnexal lymphoma is rare disease. We evaluated the effectiveness and the toxicity of radiation treatment in patients with primary ocular adnexal lymphoma.

Materials and methods: Thirty two patients (16 men and 16 women) with ocular adnexal non-Hodgkin lymphoma (NHL) were treated in our department between February 1999 and December 2007. The median follow-up period was 24 months (1-121). Men were 15, women 17. Median age was 61 year (range 28-79). Twenty one patients (65.6%) was primary and eleven (34.4%) was secondary. The lymphoma established by incisional surgical biopsy has been in 21 primary patients from orbit or conjunctiva and in 11 patients with progression diseases by biopsy from peripheral lymph nodes before. 10 patients had stage IE, 22 patients had advanced NHLs in stages II-B III-B with orbital or conjunctival involvement. 11 patients had a B-cell lymphoma from the MACT system with low malignancy - six patients, six follicular cell lymphoma, 4 patients with diffuse B-cell NHL, 4 patients had unclassified lymphoma and one Burkett lymphoma. All patients received radiotherapy 1.2 Gy twice a day, total dose was 30-36 Gy (40 Gy for patients with development and grow. We have hypothesized that homeostatic and inflammatory chemokines, which control cell trafficking in secondary lymphoid organs (CCL2, CCL12, CCL4), might play a crucial role in the development, progression, and impaired immune response observed in extranodal lymphomas, and in particular in primary CNS lymphoma (PCNSL). Immunohistochemical analysis of hybridization on 25 cases of PCNSL revealed a high protein expression of CCL12, which can also function as survival factor for malignant B cells. In addition, we have characterized the cells of the immune system within the tumour microenvironment and assess the expression of selected inflammatory chemokines. The in vitro analysis of chemokine responses induced in a cell line derived from a diffuse large B cell lymphoma of activated phenotype (OCL-Ly10) shows that the intensity of inflammatory and homeostatic chemokines present in the tumour microenvironment might strongly influence the migratory capacity of malignant B cells. Chemokine expression patterns of malignant lymphocytes, vascular endothelium, and infiltrating lymphocytes might influence tumour development, localisation, as well as the inflammatory response in the microenvironment.
Radiotherapy (RT) was performed in all but one (personal refusal) non-responding
58% with 4 complete remissions (CR) (33%) and 3 partial remissions (25%).
observed. The overall response rate (ORR) 1 month after treatment completion was
still unknown in our series of ocular adnexal MALT lymphomas, and that some types of
distinguish malignant lymphoid tissue from benign inflammation. However, this is
75 patients with ocular adnexal MALT lymphoma in 1 case; median age 57 years; orbital localizations included palpbral and
lacrimal gland involvement in 5 (42%) and 3 pts (25%), respectively; bilateral OAL in 1
nervous system, gastric, waldeyer’s ring, lung, and splenic involvements, respectively;
and rare retinal complications. We therefore investigated in a prospective multicentre
Introductions: As radiotherapy is the standard treatment for low-grade ocular adnexal
lymphomas; Male/Female sex ratio 1.4; median age 63 years (range: 49-86); PS >1 18%;
prognothic Index was 0-1, 2, and 3 in 35%, 29%, and 35% of cases, respectively. All but
metastases. Despite a high proportion of disseminated localizations, high-grade OAL
seems to have a similar OS than nodal high-grade B-cell lymphomas.
patients were alive in continuous CR and 6 were dead in whom 5 of lymphomatous
inflammation. However, this is
extraorbital localization of low-grade lymphomas. Only 15% of them are considered
intervention.
493 HIGH-GRADE OCULAR ADNEXAL LYMPHOMA: CLINICO-
PATHOLOGIC CHARACTERISTICS AND PROGNOSTIC FACTORS OF
A SINGLE CENTRE SERIES OF 17 PATIENTS
C. Precuparu1, E. Valkovićć2, C. Lévy1, C. Plancher3, A. Vincent-Salomon4, R. Dendale5, B. Asselain3, V. Servois6, L. Desjardins2, M. Zanni1, L. Lumbroso-Le Roux7, D. Decaudin1
2Clinical Hematology, Institut Curie, Paris, France, 3Ophthalmology, Institut
Curie, Paris, France, 4Biostatistics, Institut Curie, Paris, France, 5Tumor Biology,
Institut Curie, Paris, France, 6Radiotherapy, Institut Curie, Paris, France,
7Radiology, Institut Curie, Paris, France
Introduction: Ocular adnexal lymphomas (OAL) mainly correspond to a B-cell
type and, in 80% of cases of low-grade lymphomas. Only 15% of them are considered
high-grade.
Patients and methods: We retrospectively investigated the clinico-pathologic features and outcome of a series of 17 high-grade OAL patients (pts) treated at the Institut
Curie.
Results: Pts characteristics were: Histopathological review (WHO classification) found
14 diffuse large B-cell lymphomas (38%), 1 Burkitt-like lymphoma, and 2 Burkitt’s
lymphomas; Male/Female sex ratio 1.4; median age 63 years (range: 49-86); PS >1 18%;
ophthalmologic localizations were intra-orbital in 9 pts (53%), lacrimal gland in 4 pts
(23%), conjunctival and palpbral in 2 pts (12%), and bilateral OAL in 3 pts (18%);
nodal involvement 29%; stage IV 59% with 4, 3, 2, 2, 2 and 1 bone marrow, central
tumors, gastric, waldeyer’s ring, lung, and splenic involvements, respectively;
more than 2 extranodal sites 35%; elevated serum L2M level 23%; the International
Prognostic Index was 0-1, 2, and 3 in 35%, 29%, and 35% of cases, respectively. All but
patients received a first line of chemotherapy with rituximab in 5 cases. Ophthalmologic
radiotherapy was performed in 8 pts. At the end of the first treatment line, 12/15 evaluable pts were in complete remission (CR), 2 in partial remission, and 1 had a
stable disease. A median follow-up of 144 months (range 7-171), 8/14 evaluable patients were alive in continuous CR and 6 were dead in whom 5 of lymphomatous
progression.
494 NON-GASTRIC MALT LYMPHOMAS A SINGLE CENTER EXPERIENCE ON 75 PATIENTS
C. Kaitsidakis1, G. Pangalis2, T. Vassilakopoulou2, M. Kyrtsonis3, M. Siakantaris3, P. Kontopoulou3, K. Papadakis1, D. Anagnostou3, P. Bobotis1, X. Yiakouris1, P. Panayiotidou1, I. Papadaskis1, M. Angelopoulos1
1Department of Hematology, University of Crete, Heraklion, Greece, 2Dept of
Hematology, University of Athens, Laikon University Hospital, Athens, Greece
Introduction: Extranasal marginal zone B-cell lymphoma (EMZL) of mucosa
associated lymphoid tissue (MALT) is an indolent disease. Non-gastric MALT
lymphomas may arise in any anatomic site.
Patients and Methods: 75 consecutive patients (pts) with the diagnosis of non-gastric
EMZL according to the WHO classification criteria, confirmed after histological
revaluation were analysed. Disease localization was correlated with clinical and
laboratory features, treatment modalities and outcome.
Results: Pts median age was 55 years. The most commonly affected sites were salivary glands (19), skin (14), ocular adnexa (15), lung (10), intestine (8) and Waldeyer’s
ring (6). Ann Arbor stage I disease was present in 39 pts (32%), stage II in 9 (12%) and stage
IV in 27 (36%). 16 pts (21%) had involvement of more than one extranodal site. The
lymph node and bone marrow involvement were present in 16% and 11% respectively.
Most pts (90%) were in the low or low-intermediate risk groups according to the
International Prognostic Index (IPI). B-symptoms were present in 6 pts (8%). Pts were
-treated with several modalities, including chlorambucil alone or in combination with
other agents including Rituximab 44 pts. Complete and partial remission was
achieved in 77% and 7% respectively, with an overall response rate of 84%. 4 pts had a
median follow up of 51 mos (range 2-228) the 5- and 10-year overall survival (OS)
were 93% and 88% respectively. Lung localization was associated with inferior
outcome, with a 5- and 10-year OS of 80% and 42% respectively.
Conclusions: Non-gastric MALT lymphomas are a disseminated disease in at least one
third of the pts. The optimal management may be site-related. Chlorambucil in
combination with Rituximab seems to be an effective treatment strategy. Pts with lung involvement have a less favorable outcome.
Annals of Oncology

495 COMBINED IMMUNO-CHEMOTHERAPY WITH RITUXIMAB, METHOTREXATE, CNU, AND PROCARBAZINE FOR THE TREATMENT OF PRIMARY CNS-LYMPHOMA IN THE ELDERLY

G. Berhaut1, F. Müller1, F. Feuerhake1, J. Frie1
1Hematology / Oncology, University Hospital, Freiburg, Germany, 2Neuropathology, University Hospital, Freiburg, Germany

Introduction: Primary CNS lymphoma (PCNSL) have a dismal prognosis despite initial response to steroids and whole brain radiotherapy (WBRT). Addition of high-dose methotrexate (MTX) to WBRT improved the prognosis of patients (pts.) with PCNSL, resulting in median survival rates of up to 60 months (mo). Surviving pts. particularly elderly treated with combined radio-chemotherapy are at substantial risk of developing leukoencephalopathy. There have been ambiguous observations on response of PCNSL to the anti-CD20 monoclonal antibody rituximab in small treatment series. Here we report the results of 16 pts treated with rituximab, MTX, CNU and procarbazine (R-MCP protocol) within a monocentric pilot-study.

Patients and Methods: Pts. >65 yrs received up to 3 cycles of the R-MCP protocol: rituximab (375mg/m², d-6, 1, 15, 29); MTX (3g/m², d2, 16, 30); CNU (110 mg/m² p.o., d1-10) and procarbazine (60 mg/m² p.o., d1-10 and CNU (110 mg/m² p.o., d1-10); cycles were repeated every 42 days. There was no lower limit of Karnofsky Performance Status (KPS). Inclusion criteria were age >65 yrs and biopsy proven PCNSL.

Results: Sixteen pts. (median age 76 yrs, range 65-83 yrs.) were treated with the R-MCP protocol in this pilot-phase. In 5 pts MTX was not tolerated after 1 (n=4) and 2 (n=1) applications due to hepatic (n=1) and renal impairment (n=4). In these pts, treatment was continued with rituximab, CNU and procarbazine. Objective response was seen in 15 of 16 pts. (93.7%) with 11 CR and 4 PR. One pt died due to pulmonary embolism 2 weeks after initiation of treatment and was not evaluable for response. Two pts. with refractory disease could successfully be salvaged. Two further pts experienced fatal relapse. After a median follow-up of 11 mo (range, 1-19) 15 of 16 pts (81.25%) are alive and disease-free. Preliminary evaluation shows a 12 mo overall survival of 86.7%. Severe leukoencephalopathy as well as grade IV toxicity could not be observed.

Conclusion: The immuno-chemotherapy protocol presented here is safe and shows high efficacy in treating elderly pts. with PCNSL. The addition of rituximab to MTX-based chemotherapy is promising and warrants further investigation. A prospective, phase-II trial will be initiated.

496 PRIMARY BREAST NON-HODGKIN'S LYMPHOMA: A LARGE SINGLE CENTER STUDY OF INITIAL CHARACTERISTICS, NATURAL HISTORY, AND PROGNOSTIC FACTORS

P. Validès1, M. Capovilla2, B. Asselan2, Y. Kirova2, R. Gouloufrev2, C. Plancher2, C. Precapariu1, M. Zanni1, P. Gaudart2, A. Vincent-Salomon2, D. Decaudin2
1Clinical Hematology, Institut Curie, Paris, France, 2Turner Biology, Institut Curie, Paris, France

Introduction: Primary breast lymphoma (PBL) is a rare site of this disease. This peculiar extra-nodal site allows three main questions, namely (1) their clinical and biological features, (2) the prognostic impact of breast involvement on the natural history of the disease, and (3) the risk of central nervous system (CNS) relapses. Therefore, the aims of this study were to determine the initial pathological and clinical characteristics, and prognostic factors of patients with primary malignant breast lymphoma (PBL).

Patients and methods: All patients treated at the Institut Curie for lymphoma with breast involvement were retrospectively reviewed. A pathological review of all cases was performed, including B61-2 and CD10 expressions.

Results: Forty-six cases were selected for the study in whom 40 cases of high grade NHL. A complete analysis was then performed on these 46 high-grade NHL patients. 21/29 cases (72%) of cases were B61-2 positive and 5/29 (17%) of cases were CD10 positive. Peculiar initial characteristics showed nodal involvement in 57% cases and 227/29 cases (72%) of cases were B61-2 positive and 5/29 (17%) of cases were CD10 positive. Peculiar initial characteristics showed nodal involvement in 57% cases and 2

497 BREAST NON-HODGKIN'S LYMPHOMA: A SINGLE CENTER EXPERIENCE OF 18 PATIENTS

N. Betschen1, M. Eibko1, D. Cos1, J. Rey1, B. Chateau2, J. Schiano de Colella3, T. Arrun1, J. Gastaut1, A. Stoppa1, L. Xerri2
1Hematology and Bone Marrow Transplant Unit, Civic Hospital of Piacenza, Piacenza, Italy

498 BRONCHIAL-ASSOCIATED LYMPHOID TISSUE (BALT) LYMPHOMA - THE THERAPEUTIC EFFECT OF MONO CHEMOTHERAPY

V.S. Mikošević1, A. Bogdanović1, S. Janković1, A. Sretenović1, B. Andjelkovic1, M. Vranić1, M. Bogunović1, D. Bošković1, M. Petković1, B. Mršajević1
1Diagnosticki/Ouasant Dep, Inst of Hematology, Belgrade, Serbia and Montenegro

Introduction: Bronchial associated lymphoid tissue (BALT) lymphoma is a rare subtype of low grade B-cell marginal zone lymphoma. It represents 3.6% of all extranodal lymphomas and 0.4% of all non Hodgkin's lymphomas. The purpose of this study was to analyze the diagnosis and the treatment of BALT-oma.

Material and methods: This study included six patients who had BALT lymphoma diagnosed between January 2001 and April 2007 at the Institute of hematology-CCS, Belgrade. Demographic characteristics were as follow: male/ female ratio was 1:5 (16.67%:83.33%); the median age was 63 years (range, 37-72). On presentation, four patients (66.66%) had nonspecific respiratory symptoms and all of them had HIV negative symptoms. Patients were seronegative for human immunodeficiency viruses (HIV and hepatitis B virus) and HCV. One patient had Sjögren's syndrome and one patient had autoimmune thyroid disease. On presentation, two patients (33.33%) had received chemotherapy consisting of chlorambucil alone (doses was 10 mg p.o. during ten days monthly up to 6 cycles). One patient underwent surgical resection, followed with chlorambucil.

Results: A complete response with initial therapy was achieved in one patient (16.66%) and a partial response was obtained in five patients (83.33%). All these patients have a median follow-up of 39 months (range 6-72 months). During the follow up period one patient relapsed into other extranodal localization, but achieved PR after CHOP regimen.

Conclusion: BALT lymphoma tends to be localized disease at the time of diagnosis, responds well to surgical treatment or mono chemotherapy with chlorambucil and has a favourable prognosis.

499 NHL'S EXTRANODAL INVOLVEMENT IN HCV POSITIVE PATIENTS: CUTANEOUS B-CELL NHLs

P. Beruzzi1, D. Valtisa1
1Hematology and Bone Marrow Transplant Unit, Civic Hospital of Piacenza, Piacenza, Italy

Introduction/Background: extranodal involvement is frequent for patients with HCV-related NHL. (65% versus 19% in HCV-related lymphomas). Target organs seem to be salivary glands and liver, according to the virus-tropism. Moreover, up to 40-74% of HCV positive patients develop an extranodal involvement during their infection’s history. Of particular interest is the prevalence of marginal zone lymphomas in HCV positive patients, as response to the chronic infection with immunological activation and expansion of marginal zone B-lymphocytes.

Material and Methods: all new NHL’s affected patients are tested for HCV serology, molecular biology with viral load and genotyping. Staging is according to Ann Arbor stage.

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Results: 11 consecutive HCV-rtive patients are detected with cutaneous B-NHL. Patients are 1 male, median age at diagnosis is 70 years, viral load results high (over 2.5 million UI/ml) in 4/7 patient valuables, genotype is: 6 type 2, 2 type 1b, 3 type 4. Follow up NHL's hypertrophy according to the REAL classification is: 6 marginal zone lymphoma (4 with nodal involvement, 2 primitive cutaneous), 3 follicular grade 2 lymphoma, 1 diffuse large B-cell and mantle cell lymphoma. The group with indolent behavior have a long survival (until 10 years FU), in contrast to a poor prognosis for group with large-B-cell and mantle cell lymphoma.

Conclusions: NHL in HCV infected patient present frequently an extranodal localization at onset. In our experience 11 consecutive HCV-rtive positive patients present at onset a cutaneous involvement of B-cell NHL. These represent notable for the not usual origin and for the B-lineage of lymphomas, instead of usual prevalence of T-cell cutaneous NHL (75% of cutaneous NHL). The proposal is of a particular interest for these patients as subset of HCV-related B-NHL and eventual acquired demeritism for B-lymphocyte during chronic immunologic stimulation and lymphomagenesis.

500 AUTOIMMUNE COMPLICATIONS ARE FREQUENT IN SPLENIC AND NODAL MARGINAL ZONE LYMPHOMAS

M. Bonifaci1, M. Fina21, G. Rossi3, A. Ambrosi21, M. Chios2, A. Tucci2, S. Ferrante31, D. Perel31, A. Zanin21, G. Bottelli2, G. Pizzoli21
1Clinical and Experimental Medicine - Section of Hematology, University, Verona, Italy, 2IJ/0 Ematologia, Spedali Civili, Brescia, Italy, 3Pathology - Section of Pathological Anatomy, University, Verona, Italy

Introduction: Splenic (SMZL) and nodal marginal zone lymphomas (NMZL) are rare indolent disorders with a reported incidence of autoimmune complications (AIC) of 10 to 15%. We retrospectively evaluated our series of SMZL and NMZL to assess the frequency and characteristics of AIC, their relationship with clinical and biological parameters and their impact on the disease course.

Patients and Methods: We analyzed 143 patients, 86 males, 57 females, median age 63, diagnosed at our Institutions. SMZL were 117, NMZL 26. Diagnosis was based on histological and immunological analysis of spleen (45 cases) and/or bone marrow in SMZL, of lymphnodes in NMZL. Anti-HCV seropositivity (RIBA) was detected in 2/122 (21.3%) tested patients.

Results: AO relevant occurrence in 34/143 (23.8%) patients: autoimmune haemolytic anaemia (AHA) in 12, autoimmune thrombocytopenia in 6, Evans' S. in 2, autoimmune pancytopenia in 2, anti-MAG neuropathy in 3, Sjogren's S. in 3, rheumatoid arthritis in 2, antiphospholipid antibodies in 4, anti-CCP antibodies in 2, anti-C1q antibodies in 1, antithyroid antibodies in 1, systemic lupus erythematosus in 1, SLE in 1, antinuclear antibodies in 3, and single positive lupus antibodies in 2.

Conclusion: In our patients with SMZL and NMZL autoimmune manifestations seem to be frequent in LPL and MZL. AHA and rheumatoid arthritis were more frequent in SMZL and NMZL, respectively. Other autoimmune manifestations were not frequent. Further studies are needed to evaluate the impact of autoimmune complication on the disease course in these lymphomas.

501 RITUXIMAB MONOTHERAPY IN SPLENIC MARGINAL ZONE LYMPHOMA

M. Bennett1, H.P. Dave2, E.J. Darrn3, S. Yegena4, E. Chubar1, G.P. Schechter5
1Hematology, Spedali Civili, Brescia, Italy, 2Hematology, Policlinico GB Rossi, Verona, Italy

Introduction: Splenic marginal zone lymphoma (SMZL) is an indolent disease with distinct clinical, molecular and immunophenotypic features. Splenomegaly can be marked in this condition and yet lymphadenopathy may be quite inconspicuous. The spleen is a lymphoid organ with the capacity to produce particular types of B-lymphocytes and it is usually an extranodal site for the occurrence of B-cell NHL. These representations are notable for the usual occurrence of T-cell cutaneous NHL (75% of cutaneous NHL). It is considered that SMZL and NMZL should be considered as distinct clinicopathological entities.

Material and Methods: 15 patients who were diagnosed to have SMZL according to accepted criteria were identified. Rituximab was used as a single agent at a dose of 375 mg/m² for four to eight consecutive weeks.

Results: 14 of the 16 patients responded to this infusion often with a dramatic reduction of a massively enlarged spleen and correction of the pancytopenia. The mean progression free survival of these responding patients is 59 months (range 3 to 108 months). One patient died at 45 months of unrelated disease and four relapsed. 9 remain progression free at a median of 51 months (range 3 to 88 months). It is concluded that rituximab is an effective monotherapy for SMZL and can obviate the need for splenectomy with attendant complications. Our data are superior to the results of splenectomy.

502 RITUXIMAB MONOTHERAPY FOR SPLENIC LYMPHOMA WITH VILLOUS LYMPHOCYTES

J. Rey1, V. Ivanov2, Y. Elomari1, D. Cosso1, J. Gastaut1, B. Bouabdallah1
1Onco-Hematology, Paoli-Calmettes, Marseille, France

Introduction: Splenic lymphoma with villous lymphocytes is a indolent lymphoma recognized within the WHO classification as a distinct entity among marginal zone lymphomas. No consensus was established for the treatment of this lymphoma, although splenectomy is considered the first line treatment. As villous lymphocytes express the CD20 antigen, treatment with rituximab was recently reported, as monotherapy or combines with chemotherapy.

Material and Methods: We report another case of rituximab monotherapy treatment for a patient with splenic lymphoma with villous lymphocytes, inducing a complete remission.

Results: A 30-year old woman was diagnosed with indolent B-cell non-Hodgkin's lymphoma because of presence of B signs with splenomegaly and supra centimetric sus diaphragmatic adenopathies. Staging show a stage II with mediastinal bulky. Definitive histological diagnosis was difficult with characteristics of follicular lymphoma and marginal zone lymphoma. It was decided to treat the patient with 6 monthly courses of CHVP chemotherapy. A complete remission was obtained after the fist 6 courses of chemotherapy. Then, the patient received 6 courses of CHVP every two months for one year. A relapse was noted after 14 months of follow up. The patient presented with symptomatic splenomegaly and circulating abnormal lymphocytes. Computed tomography revealed no profound adenopathy. Cytologic evaluation of lymphocytes concluded to typical villous lymphocytes with concordant phenotype of villous lymphoma. Treatment was decided because of symptomatic splenomegaly. Since the refusal of patient for splenectomy, we decided to manage this patient with rituximab monotherapy. The patient received rituximab at a dose of 375 mg/m² once a week for 4 consecutive weeks. Evaluation after the four weeks showed clearance of villous lymphocytes, disappearance of splenomegaly and normalisation of LDH and beta 2 microglobulin. After one year of follow up, the patient is still in complete remission.

Conclusions: Rituximab monotherapy for splenic lymphoma with villous lymphocytes is a safe and efficient treatment. It could replace splenectomy as a good palliative procedure, especially in elderly patients.
cryoglobulinaemia (14%). Autoimmunity did not correlate with viral infections nor with the production of monoclonal IgM serum proteins. Median overall survival (MOS) of all pts was 112 months (LPL 125 and MZL 112 months, respectively; P=NS) and did not differ in pts with autoimmunity.

Conclusions: Autoimmunity is frequent both in LPL and MZL, particularly in females. However it does not seem to be related to the more frequent production of IgM proteins in LPL, nor to common viral infections and does not impact on survival.