



Correlation between the prevalence of T-cell lymphomas and alcohol consumption

Minodora Desmirean^{1,2}, Cedric Richlitzki¹, Sergiu Pasca¹, Patric Teodorescu^{1,3}, Bobe Petrushev⁴, Sebastian Rauch¹, Jacob Steinheber¹, Sabina Iluta⁵, Jiixin Liu⁶, Delia Dima⁵, Ravnit Grewal^{6,7,8}, Weina Ma⁹, Liren Qian⁹, Ciprian Tomuleasa^{1,3,4}

1) Department of Hematology, Iuliu Hatieganu University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Cluj-Napoca, Romania

2) Department of Pathology, Constantin Papilian Military Hospital, Cluj-Napoca, Romania

3) Department of Hematology, Ion Chiricuta Clinical Cancer Center, Cluj-Napoca, Romania

4) Medifuture Research Center for Advanced Medicine, Iuliu Hatieganu University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Cluj-Napoca, Romania

5) Department of Hematology, The Sixth Medical Center of PLA General Hospital, Beijing, China

6) South African Bioinformatics Institute, University of the Western Cape, Cape Town, South Africa

7) South African Medical Research Council, Cape Town, South Africa

8) Department of Hematology and Cell Biology, Faculty of Health Sciences, National Health Laboratory Services, University of the Free State, Bloemfontein, South Africa

9) Department of Pathology, The Sixth Medical Center of PLA General Hospital, Beijing, China

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Address for correspondence:
ciprian.tomuleasa@iocn.ro

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Abstract

Background and aims. Alcohol is a psychoactive substance that causes dependence, with many thousands of years in the history of mankind, being widely used in different cultures. According to the International Agency for Research on Cancer, alcohol is involved in the development of cancer, being directly associated with it. Considering that alcohol is involved in the initiation and dissemination of gastrointestinal malignancies, the objective of the study was to assess its role in the pathogenesis of T-cell lymphomas, as well as its possible correlation with chronic consumption.

Methods. The patient cohort was compiled from the Sixth Medical Center of the People's Liberation Army Navy General Hospital in Beijing, China. A total of 30 patients matched the criteria and were enrolled in the study. Statistical analysis of the raw data was performed using R Statistics version R 3.5.1, released on the 29.08.2018.

Results. Our data demonstrate that the most common extranodal involvement of T-cell lymphoma patients is represented in decreasing order by bone marrow, peritoneum, rhino-oropharynx and the liver-biliary system. Nodal involvement is mainly represented in decreasing order by the laterocervical, axillary, mediastinal and inguinal regions.

Conclusions. These findings may be of value in further research and practical/clinical settings. Fever is the most common clinical feature and was present in most studied patients.

Keywords: T-cell lymphomas, alcohol consumption, pathophysiology

Introduction

Over the past century the incidence of non-Hodgkin lymphomas (NHL) has steadily risen, mainly the B-cell lymphomas, as they represent the majority of NHL [1–3]. T-cell and NK-cell lymphomas are generally underrepresented due to their low incidence overall. They also have a wide variability in different geographical regions and racial populations [4–6]. T- and NK-cell lymphomas are relatively rare and clinically either of these subtypes are aggressive and quite heterogenous [7]. The occurrence of adult T-cell

lymphomas may be linked to previous viral infections with Human T-lymphotropic virus type 1 (HTLV-1) and Epstein-Barr virus (EBV) [8–14]. Considering that T-cell lymphomas in general, are a rarely occurring type of malignancy, its large number of subtypes represent only a few hundred cases annually.

While in North America the three most common T-cell lymphomas are peripheral T-cell lymphoma - Not Otherwise Specified (PTCL-NOS), angioimmunoblastic T-cell lymphoma and anaplastic large-cell lymphoma ALK-positive (ALCL ALK-positive), Europe