MOLECULAR MARKERS AND IMUNOPHENOTIPICAL PROGNOSTIC FACTORS IN CHRONIC LYMPHOCYTIC LEUKEMIA

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An evaluation of prognostic factors in chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL) at the time of diagnosis can guide the timing and strategy of treatment. Several prognostic factors including stage, cell types, extranodal involvement, hemoglobin level, response to initial treatment, molecular and cytogenetic abnormalities have been studied but is still uncertain which factor is crical for disease evolution. Our goal is to assess prognostic impact of these factors in our study group.

Material and methods: Our study group has 78 patients diagnosed with chronic lymphocytic leukemia between 1997-2011 in Hematology Departement Spitalul „Sf. Spiridon" Iasi. Were assesed multiple clinical, biological, immunophenotipical parameters and the prognstic impact of these parameters over the response rate, survival and disease free survival. Results: In our study response rate was better at the patients with Hb level higher than 10g/dl (p=0,05), at the patients in stage A Binet (p=0,025). Overall survival was significantly better at the patients with the expression of kappa light chain, with expression of FMC7, and worse at the patients with expression of CD38 at diagnosis even of the patients in stage A Binet. . Molecular tests for del17p was performed in 30 cases and showed positivity in 5 patients with worse evolution of the disease.

Conclusions: Patients with CLL and especially those with early stage at diagnosis will beneficiate of complete evaluation of prognostic factors in order to establish the best time for initiation of therapy. Clonal B cell phenotype at diagnosis may be useful in finding new prognostic factors at diagnosis in CLL patients.