

TREATMENT IN B-CELL LYMPHOMAS WITH FEATURES INTERMEDIATE BETWEEN DIFFUSE LARGE B-CELL LYMPHOMA AND CLASSICAL HODGKIN LYMPHOMA

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Lymphomas with features intermediate between diffuse large B-cell lymphoma and classical Hodgkin lymphoma are a rare entity, newly described by the last WHO 2008 classification. They are associated with difficulty in pathology diagnosis, severe outcome and lack of standardized therapy.

We present our experience with this type of lymphoma consisting in 2 cases of young males, 31 and 24 years old.

The first case was initially diagnosed as classical Hodgkin lymphoma (lymphocyte depletion type 0) and treated accordingly with ABVD chemotherapy followed by mediastinal irradiation but not achieving remission. Second line treatment with DHAP regimens was performed but with no favorable outcome. At this time point the pathology was reevaluated and the diagnosis was of B-cell lymphomas with features intermediate between diffuse large B-cell lymphoma and classical Hodgkin lymphoma. He received immunochemotherapy – R-EPOCH followed by autologous stem cell transplant with the achievement of PET/CT negative sustained remission.

In the second case, the diagnosis was made after the biopsy of a bulky mediastinal mass. He received R-ABVD regimen with the reduction of the tumor but with persistence of a residual thymic mass. After mediastinal radiotherapy he achieved PET/CT negative remission.

The evolution of this 2 cases underlines the difficulties in pathology diagnosis of this rare type of lymphoma and the importance of Rituximab in the treatment of this lymphoproliferation.

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