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CLINICOPATHOLOGICAL PROFILE OF LYMPHOMA IN A TERTIARY CENTER IN NEPAL

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INTRODUCTION

- Non-Hodgkin lymphoma (NHL) and Hodgkin lymphoma (HL) represent a diverse group of malignant lymphoid tumors.
- According to the Global Cancer Statistics (GLOBOCAN), NHL was the 12th commonest cancer diagnosed in Nepal in 2020.[1]
- Patients are misdiagnosed and treated for other diseases, like tuberculosis due to its varied clinical features.
- Insight into the clinical and pathological spectrum may aid in an earlier diagnosis and treatment of patients.

AIM

To evaluate the clinicopathological profile of patients diagnosed with lymphoma at a tertiary center in Nepal.

METHOD

- This is a retrospective study conducted in Bhaktapur Cancer Hospital.
- Patients aged 18 years and older and diagnosed with lymphoma between March 2022 to March 2023 were included.
- Medical records were reviewed, and data was collected and analyzed.

RESULTS

- The mean age was 56.0 ± 16.5 years (range 20–82 years).
- Male to female ratio was 1.1:1.
- The commonest symptom at presentation was neck swelling (40.0%) and abdominal pain (24.4%).
- 73.3% of patients did not have B symptoms, whereas 26.7% did.
- Primary distribution was nodal (60%) and extra-nodal (40%).
- 39 patients (86.7%) were diagnosed with NHL and 6 patients (13.3%) with HL.
- Mixed cellularity (66.7%) and nodular sclerosis (33.3%) were the types of HL observed.

FIGURE 1: AGE-WISE DISTRIBUTION

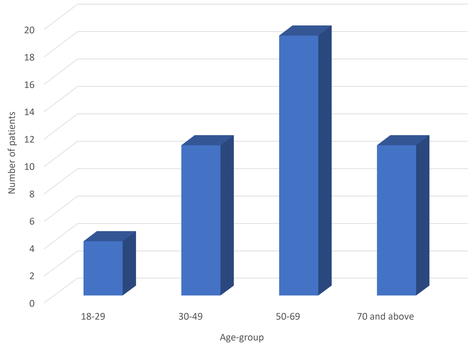


FIGURE 2: DISTRIBUTION OF NON-HODGKIN LYMPHOMA SUBTYPES

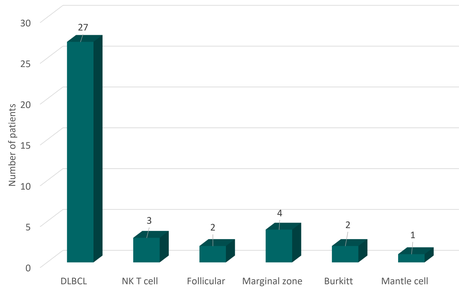
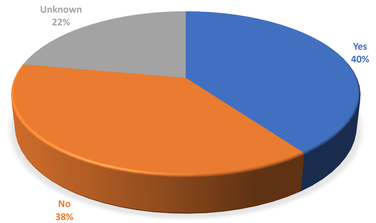


FIGURE 3: RECEIVING EMPIRICAL ANTI-TUBERCULAR TREATMENT FOR THE SYMPTOMS



CONCLUSIONS

- In our study, the majority of cases had B-cell lineage lymphoma and Diffuse Large B Cell Lymphoma (DLBCL) was the commonest lymphoma, consistent with other studies.
- Clinical presentation and pathological profile of lymphoma has a wide variation.
- 40.0% of the patients received empirical anti-tubercular treatment due to similarity in presentation, thereby prolonging time to treatment of lymphoma.

REFERENCES

1. World Health Organization. Nepal. Source GLOBOCAN 2020. https://gco.iarc.fr/today/data/factsheets/populations/524-nepal-fact-sheets.pdf

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None

CONTACT INFORMATION

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