A Twist of Fate: A Case of Sequential Lymphoma

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BACKGROUND

- Sequential lymphoma occurs when 2 distinct lymphoma subtypes develop in tandem within the same patient.
- This condition poses significant challenges in both diagnosis and management.
- Despite advances in understanding lymphoma subtypes, sequential lymphomas remain rare and poorly understood.
- These decisions require careful consideration of prior therapies and individual patient factors.

CASE HISTORY

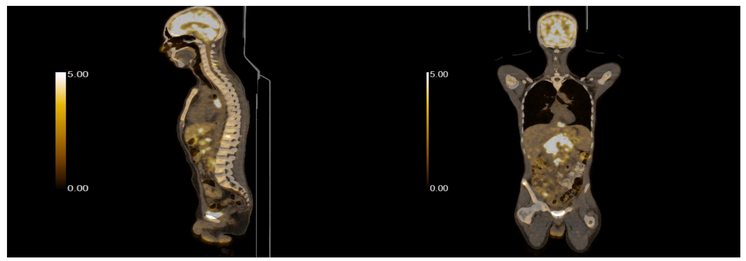
25M h/o significant weight loss, fever, and abdominal pain over 6 months

- PE: palpable left-sided cervical lymph node
- Und U/S guided biopsy of cervical LN
- H/p: linear cores of tissue exhibiting a mixed inflammatory background with scattered mononuclear cells. Immunohistochemistry of the biopsy revealed that these atypical cells

IHC: positive for CD30, Pax5, CD20 (focal positive)

negative for LCA, CD3, CD15;

PET scan:



Classical Hodgkin lymphoma (cHL)

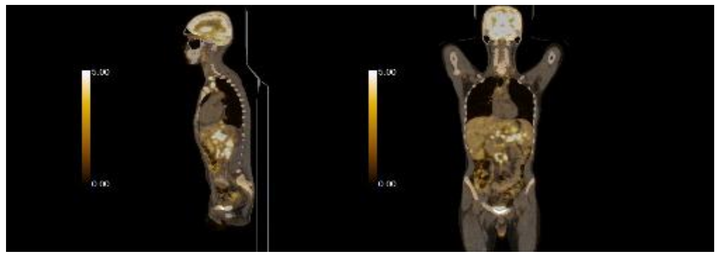
INITIAL TREATMENT

ABVD x2 → **iPET: CMR** → **ABVD x4**

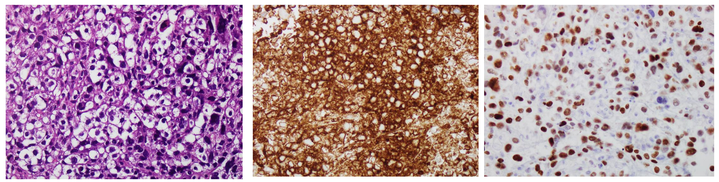
End Of treatment PET: Sustained CMR

Three months after treatment: developed fever and abdominal pain

PET scan:



Core biopsy of hepatic lesion: large cells positive for LCA, **CD20**, CD79a, Pax-5, BCL-2, BCL-6, MUM-1, **C-MYC**, CD30; negative for CD3



Diffuse Large B Cell Lymphoma (DLBCL)

SUBSEQUENT TREATMENT

Advised R-ICE regimen by MDT meeting

R-ICE x6 → **EOT PET scan: CMR**

Current Status:
Doing well, on surveillance for past 4 months with history and physical exam scheduled for every three months

DISCUSSION

- The patient was treated with anthracycline based treatment for cHL, despite that, he developed DLBCL within 3 months.
- Anthracycline-based cardiotoxicity was the main concern, and therefore, patient was treated with R-ICE regimen. Although the regimen is mostly used as a salvage therapy.
- This case underscores the complexity of managing sequential lymphomas.
- It highlights the importance of individualized treatment strategies.
- The rarity of such cases limits the availability of established treatment guidelines.
- A tailored approach based on patient-specific factors and prior treatment history is necessary.
- Further research is needed to better understand the optimal management of sequential lymphomas.

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