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DISTRIBUTION OF LYMPHOMAS IN LEBANON: A RETROSPECTIVE STUDY IN A TERTIARY HOSPITAL IN LEBANON

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INTRODUCTION

In Lebanon, lymphomas rank as the fifth most prevalent cancer. However, there is limited research on the distribution and epidemiology of lymphomas within the country, and no data are currently available regarding the classification of lymphomas based on the 2016 WHO criteria.

AIM

To study the distributions of lymphomas in Lebanon

METHOD

This is a retrospective study conducted in patients diagnosed with lymphomas between 2013 and 2021 at the Hôtel-Dieu de France University Hospital. Data was collected from medical records at the Department of Pathology. Patients who experienced disease relapse were excluded from the study.

RESULTS

609 new cases of lymphoma were diagnosed between January 2013 and February 2021: 129 (21%) were Hodgkin lymphomas (HL), and 480 (79%) were non-Hodgkin lymphomas (NHL).
HL showed a slight female predominance, with an average age at diagnosis of 34 years.
Among NHL cases, 91.46% (439 cases) were B-cell lymphomas, and 8.54% (41 cases) were T-cell lymphomas.
Among B-cell lymphomas, 46.47% (204 cases) were diffuse large B-cell lymphomas.

Among the 14 anaplastic lymphoma cases (ALCL), 3 cases were ALK-positive anaplastic lymphomas. DLBCL), 16.17% (71 cases) were follicular lymphomas (FL), and 5.92% (26 cases) were mantle cell lymphomas (MCL).

Chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL) or small lymphocytic lymphoma (SLL) accounted for 9.57% of B-cell NHL cases. Burkitt lymphoma (BL) accounted for only 1.82% of B-cell NHL cases. Additionally, B-cell lymphoblastic lymphoma, lymphoplasmacytic lymphoma, and B-cell lymphoproliferative disorders accounted for less than 2% of B-cell NHL cases.

8.54% of NHL cases (41 cases) were T-cell lymphomas (T-NHL), with an average age of 41 years, of which 36.59% (15 cases) were female and 63.41% (26 cases) were male

Lymphomas	Sub types	Number of cases	Percentage	Average age	Sex M/F ratio	Number of male cases	Average age of men	Number of female cases	Average age of women
Hodgkin		129	21%	34 (3-82)	0.87	60	35	69	33
Non-Hodgkin		480	79%	57 (1-96)	1.19	261	57	219	56
B-NHL		439	91.46%	58 (1-96)	1.15	235	59	204	57
DLBCL		204	46.47%	57 (4-89)	1.1	107	56	97	58
	GC	25	12.25%	57 (10-89)	0.92	12	61	13	52
	NCG	25	12.25%	62 (31-84)	1.08	13	67	12	61
	B-MED	8	3.92%	33 (22-46)	1.67	5	34	3	32
	B-DHL	6	2.94%	60 (50-78)	1	3	53	3	67
	ANA	3	1.47%	57 (4-83)	0.5	1	83	2	43.5
FL		71	16.17%	57 (8-85)	0.51	24	55	47	57
MZL		45	10.25%	60 (28-84)	1.14	24	60	21	60
CLL/SLL		42	9.57%	64 (27-86)	2.5	30	67	12	58
MCL		26	5.92%	65 (42-86)	4.2	21	65	5	66
BL		8	1.82%	17(1-36)	3	6	20	2	8
LPL-B		8	1.82%	62 (41-82)	1.67	5	68	3	52
LBL-B		7	1.59%	38 (2-76)	1.33	4	62	3	7
B LPDs		1	0.23%	67		1	67	0	0
Other lymphomas (B-NHL except DLBCL, FL, MCL)		138	31.44%	59 (1-96)	1.51	83	61	55	55
B unclassifiable		27	6.15%	64 (40-96)	0.93	13	65	14	65
T-NHL		41	8.54%	41 (2-91)	1.73	26	39	15	45
ALCL		14	34.15%	39 (3-75)	3.67	11	38	3	45
	ALK+ (ALCL)	3	7.32%	16 (13-19)		3	16	0	0
LLB-T		11	26.83%	28 (2-82)	1.2	6	23	5	35
ANKL		1	2.44%	11		1	11	0	0
Other T-cell lymphoma		15	36.59%	55 (29-91)	1.14	8	57	7	52
	Total patients:	609							

CONCLUSIONS

The distribution of lymphomas in Lebanon reveals a high frequency of diffuse large B-cell lymphoma (DLBCL), followed by follicular lymphoma (FL), among non-Hodgkin lymphomas (NHL). Our findings align with those observed in Western countries but contrast with the distribution observed in Asian countries.

REFERENCES

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