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Survival Disparities by Marital Status in Burkitt Lymphoma: A Population-Based Study

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INTRODUCTION

Marital status has been associated with cancer outcomes through its influence on psychosocial support, access to care, and treatment adherence. In Burkitt lymphoma (BL), an aggressive B-cell malignancy requiring prompt therapy, the impact of marital status remains poorly defined. This study evaluated associations between marital status, treatment patterns, and survival in a national cohort.

METHOD

- Retrospective analysis using the SEER 17 registry, which included adults ≥20 years of age diagnosed with BL between 2004 and 2020.
- Marital status was classified as married/partnered, single, or divorced/separated/widowed.
- Associations with stage at diagnosis and chemotherapy receipt were assessed using chi-square tests.
- Kaplan-Meier and multivariable Cox regression models were used to evaluate overall survival (OS), adjusting for age, sex, race, income, stage, and chemotherapy.

DEMOGRAPHIC OBSERVATION

Among 3,692 patients, the median age was 52 years (IQR: 37–67), and median income was $77,500 (IQR: $67,500–$92,500); 49.5% were married or partnered, 36.5% were single, and 14.0% were divorced, separated, or widowed. The overall median OS was 86 months (95% CI: 73–103), and 5-year OS was 53.1% (95% CI: 51.5–54.8%).

Marital status influences treatment access and stage at diagnosis in Burkitt lymphoma

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