BURKITT LYMPHOMA IS AN AGGRESSIVE MATURE B-CELL NEOPLASM WITH AN UNFAVORABLE PROGNOSIS:
DATA FROM LATIN AMERICA ARE SCARCE

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BACKGROUND

Burkitt lymphoma is an aggressive mature B-cell neoplasm with poor outcomes. Data from Latin America are scarce.

OBJECTIVES

- Describe clinical, laboratory, treatment, and pathological characteristics and to report overall survival and relapse-free survival in adults with Burkitt lymphoma treated at a national referral center in Latin America (2011–2025).
- Identify clinical, treatment-related, and biological factors associated with mortality and relapse--including CNS involvement, tumor lysis syndrome, HIV status and ART regimen, interim PET-CT response, and MYC/Ki-67 profiles.

METHOD

Retrospective cohort study that included BL patients (≥18 years) from 2011–2025 at a national referral center. Overall survival (OS) and relapse-free survival (RFS) were analyzed.

CONCLUSIONS

Burkitt lymphoma presented as an advanced disease with extranodal involvement, and substantial toxicity with limited survival. CNS infiltration, HIV, TLS, and inadequate responses were key adverse prognostic factors.

RESULTS – KEY HIGHLIGHTS

67 patients included

65.7% Male

Stage IV **83.6%**

HIV infection **43.3%**

Overall mortality **20.9%**

ECOG 0–1: 59.7% | ECOG ≥2: 40%

B symptoms: 53.7% | TLS: 13.4%

Ki-67 median: 95% (IQR 90–99)
CD10 92.5% | CD20 94% | BCL6 84%
MYC 58% | EBER 22.4%

Median extranodal sites: 3 (IQR 1–4)
Gastrointestinal: 58.2% | Bone marrow: 34%
CNS: 31%* | Bulky: 29.9%

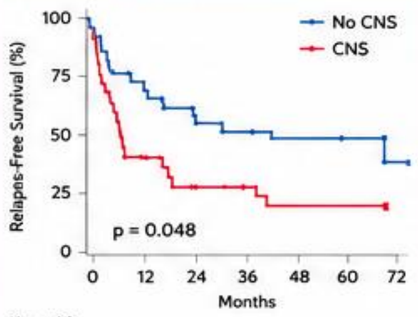
First-line regimens: R-DA-EPOCH 43.3%
R-CODOX/M-IVAC 26.9% | HCVAD 11.9%
Others 17.9%
Median cycles: 4 (IQR 2–6)
Treatment interruptions: 33%

Complete response: 44.8% | Partial response: 9%
Progression: 9%
Relapse: 17.9% (mostly extranodal and CNS)

Median OS: 17 months (IQR 5–68)
Median RFS: 12 months (IQR 5–67)

RELAPSE-FREE SURVIVAL (RFS)

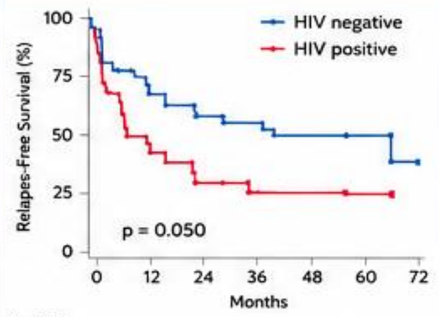
By central nervous system infiltration



No. at risk

No CNS	46	30	19	13	9	6	3
CNS	21	7	3	2	1	1	1

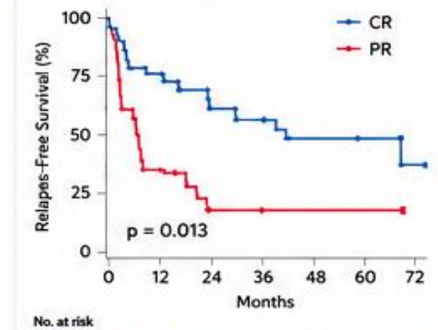
By HIV status infection



No. at risk

HIV negative	38	24	15	10	6	4	2
HIV positive	29	13	7	5	4	3	2

By interim PET-CT response



No. at risk

CR	36	26	18	13	8	6	3
PR	20	5	2	1	1	1	1

FACTORS ASSOCIATED

WITH MORTALITY

- Non-hematologic toxicity (p = 0.042)
- Interim PET-CT with PR (p = 0.001)

WITH RELAPSE

- TLS (p = 0.047)
- Non-NNRTI ART (p = 0.046)
- Interim PET-CT with PR (p = 0.013)
- CNS infiltration (p = 0.048)
- HIV (p = 0.050)

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