

Treatment results of children with Hodgkin's disease (HD) according to protocols DAL-HD and GPOH-HD

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Abstract

According to the data of the population-based Cancer Registry 2008, the structure of oncopediatric morbidity in SPb in the age group of 10–14 years (y) is most frequently malignant lymphoma (30.7%), both for girls and boys.

Methods: Sixty-four primary patients (pts) with HD were treated from 1992 to 2002 according to the following protocols: DAL-HD-90, GPOH-HD-95 (60 pts) and GPOH-HD-2002 (4 pts). The median age was 14 y. Distribution according to stages was as follows: Stages I–II were diagnosed in 46 pts (72%), 18 pts (28%) had advanced HD. The ratio of boys to girls in the group up to 11 y was 3.5:1; after 11 y both sexes were affected equally. Diagnosis was confirmed by histology (100%) and immunohistochemistry (52%). In our pts nodular sclerosis was predominant (81%). In children under 7 y a mixed cellularity variant was more frequent. In GPOH-HD-2002 protocol procarbazine was replaced by dacarbazine to decrease the adverse effects on the male reproductive system.

Results: The CR was achieved in 61 pts (95.3%). In terms of medical observation from 8 to 210 months OS – 94.8%±2.89 and did not change after 29 months. RFS and EFS were 96.5%±2.37 and 92.1±3.39 respectively. All events were registered within a period of 11 months.

During chemotherapy early toxic effects were minimal: mucositis, duodenal ulcer, and neuropathy. Late complications of radiotherapy—muscle atrophy in area of irradiation (2 cases) and tumors of thyroid gland (2 cases)—were revealed in terms of 2 to 8 years.

Conclusions: Hodgkin's disease in children can be considered as a practically curable disease with moderate intensive treatment and low toxicity.

Keywords: Hodgkin's disease, children, chemotherapy, fertility