

Lymphoma of Pancreas in a Developing Community: Case Report

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The lymphoma of the pancreas is a rarity. Single case reports have been published in India, Korea, Italy and Japan. Therefore, a case is reported from Nigeria. The age was found to be in the published range

Keywords: Lymphoma; Pancreas; Rarity; Age; Nigeria

Introduction

It is known that lymphoma of the pancreas is a rare disease. Hitherto, single reports have come from India [1], Korea [2], Turkey [3], and Japan [4]. Therefore, a case is reported from Nigeria with particular reference to the Igbo/Ibo ethnic group [5].

Case Report

OJ, a 60-year-old Igbo man, attended the Eastern Nigerian Medical Centre, Enugu, where he consulted one of us (NEO) with the complaints of 4 weeks abdominal pain. On exploration after investigations, there was a pancreatic tumor as well as ascites. The pancreas was biopsied. Three pieces of yellowish tissue measuring up to 1.5 cm across were submitted to a Regional Reference Pathology Laboratory manned by the co-author (WIBO). On microscopy, the pancreas was found to be the seat of an invading growth whose cells were lymphoid typically.

Discussion

As mentioned by Indian authors [1], differentiation from adenocarcinoma is indicated. This was taken into account in this locality.

It is of interest that our Nigerian patient was aged 60 years. Thus, this compares well with the published 57 years [3] and 61 years [2]. Indeed, in a review [6], the age range was between 35 and 75 years. Moreover, in a series of 5 cases, the mean age was 65 years [7], i.e., 5 years older than locally.

Incidentally, a Birmingham (UK) group indicated that the establishment of a histopathology data pool facilitates epidemiological analysis [8]. It was in this sense that the present case is being reported, seeing that it occurred in such a pool set up for the local developing population.

In this context, our case does not include the current combined multimodality treatment, in which chemotherapy and radiotherapy have been utilized in both Australia [9] and USA [10]. As things stand, our developing stage is not yet optimal.

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