Abstract

Background & Aim: Hodgkin's lymphoma is a highly curable disease. The study aims to assess the efficacy of the simple scoring system used since 1998 to predict the progression free survival of advanced cases of Hodgkin's lymphoma as well as early cases at NCI, Cairo University.

Patients & methods: Retrospective assessment of patients treated with Hodgkin's lymphoma at NCI during the period from January 2007 to December 2010. International prognostic score (IPS), disease free survival (DFS), progression free survival (PFS), & overall survival (OS) were calculated.

Results: A total of 191 patients were identified. 98 patients with early stage disease with a median age 24.5 years .The most common histological type encountered in both early & late stage disease was the mixed cellularity (41.8%) , & 51.6% respectively. Ninety four out of 98 patients with early stage (95.9%) were of low score (below 4) while only 4 patients (4.1%) were of high score (4 and above). After a median follow up period of 48 months, the median OS, DFS and PFS of early patients were 48, 40 and 48 months respectively. The median OS DFS, & PFS of patients with low IPS score are better than those with high score although p value cannot be assessed due too small number of patients with high score. There were 93 patients with advanced disease with a median age of 24 years. Seventy two patients out of 93 (77.4 %) were of low score (below 4) while 21 patients (22.6 %) were of high score (4 and above). The 3 year OS, DFS and PFS of 93 advanced patients were 62.2%, 36 % and 51.2 % respectively. The IPS has a significant predictive power regarding the 3 years PFS (P= 0.001). The presence of bulky disease has a significant predictive power regarding the 3 years DFS (P=0.04).

Conclusion: The IPS has a predictive power in our study regarding the 3 years PFS of advanced stage Hodgkin's lymphoma. Further studies with greater number of patients are needed to assess its efficacy in early cases.

Key words: Hodgkin's lymphoma, IPS, prognostic factors, PFS, DFS, OS.