

26TH WORLD CANCER AND ONCODIAGNOSTICS CONFERENCE

November 27-28, 2017 Dubai, UAE

The etiology of early mortality in pediatric acute leukemia

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Early death means death occurs before remission or within 30 days of starting induction chemotherapy. The rate of early death in ALL is about 1-5%. The most common cause of early death was infection, which was mainly bacterial. The second leading cause was bleeding, frequently stated brain hemorrhage and septic shock was the third most common cause. The other causes were tumor lysis syndrome and hyperleukocytosis, drug related encephalopathy, acute cardiomyopathy and thrombotic events. The differences of early mortality rate in different studies seem to be due to following causes: Age of patients, sex, type of treatment, preexisting disorder like Down syndrome and high white blood cell count. Children with acute lymphoblastic leukemia needs more advanced supportive care mainly focused on strategies to prevent infection and bleeding, which was the most common causes of early deaths. Advance supportive cares to prevent infection include starting IVIg for infant and prophylaxis against *Pneumocystis jiroveci* with trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole in neutropenic patients during induction and bleeding by transfusion support as well as modification in anthracycline dose. In addition, it is necessary to individualize the patient for using the type of corticosteroid during induction phase with performing further studies.

Biography

Asghar Bazrafshan has completed his MD from Tehran University of Medical Sciences, Iran and Pediatrician degree from Shiraz University of Medical Sciences, Iran. He further has completed subspecialty in Pediatric Hematology/Oncology from Shiraz University of Medical Sciences. He is an Assistant Professor in Pediatric Hematology and Oncology and has published more than 8 papers in reputed journals.

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