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Early infection in post-autologous hematopoietic stem cell transplant patients Princess Noorah Oncology Center experience

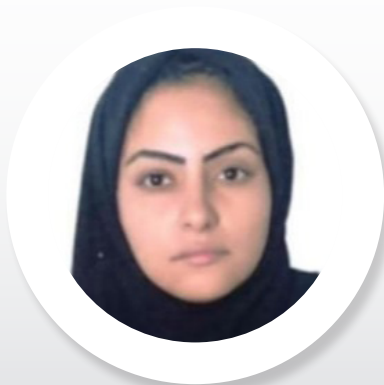
Background: Autologous hematopoietic stem cell transplantation (ASCT) is considered the standard of care in several relapsed / refractory lymphoid malignancies and multiple myeloma. In Saudi Arabia, both Hodgkin and non-Hodgkin lymphoma were rated as the top five most frequent cancers among males and females. Several factors may affect early immune recovery in autologous stem cell transplant patients. This study assesses local epidemiology and risk factors for bacterial, fungal, and viral infections among the autologous bone marrow transplant population.

Methodology: This study is a retrospective correlational cohort design comprising 150 adult patients who underwent autologous transplants at Princess Noorah Oncology Center between 2014 and 2020.

Result: The study findings indicate that bacterial infection prevalence differed significantly across the different disease status pre-salvage as patients with the relapsed disease were more likely to have bacterial infections. The median of engraftment days differed significantly between those who had a bacterial infection and those who did not. Interestingly, previous pneumonia infection had a positive relationship with the number of hospital stays.

Conclusion: Bacterial infections are the dominant type of infection among the autologous patient population. The research reflects authentic practice and reports unique characteristics of autologous transplant patients in terms of the prevalence and types of infection these patients experience.

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