Emerging Prognostic Factors for Clinical Care

Reed-Sternberg cells represent the minority of cells in a node involved by HL. The tumor microenvironment is composed of a mixed inflammatory infiltrate. There have been several reports that the extent of infiltration of macrophages as measured by CD68 is associated with an adverse outcome. However, the cutoffs defining CD68 positivity vary among studies. This assay must be standardized before it can be routinely used in clinical practice.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Factor</th>
<th>Definition</th>
<th>Clinical significance</th>
<th>Level of evidence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CD68 infiltration</td>
<td>IHC for CD68 as a surrogate for macrophage infiltration, cutoff for CD68 expression differ by study</td>
<td>Most studies suggest poor prognosis if extensive macrophage infiltration, cutoffs not established</td>
<td>III</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Risk Assessment Models

The AJCC recently established guidelines that will be used to evaluate published statistical prediction models for the purpose of granting endorsement for clinical use. Although this is a monumental step toward the goal of precision medicine, this work was published only very recently. Therefore, the existing models that have been published or may be in clinical use have not yet been evaluated for this cancer site by the Precision Medicine Core of the AJCC. In the future, the statistical prediction models for this cancer site will be evaluated, and those that meet all AJCC criteria will be endorsed.

Recommendations for Clinical Trial Stratification

The authors have not provided any recommendations for clinical trial stratification at this time.

Bibliography

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