

EPIDEMIOLOGY OF HAEMATOLOGICAL MALIGNANCIES IN NATIONAL HOSPITAL ABUJA:
A TEN-YEAR RETROSPECTIVE STUDY

Iniabasi E. U. David^{*1}, Uchenna G. Ejikeme², Tamunomiebi Thopmson Wakama^{1,3}, Oche Patrick Ogbe^{1,3}, Adaeze Okwu¹

¹HAEMATOLOGY AND BLOOD TRANSFUSION, NATIONAL HOSPITAL ABUJA, ²HAEMATOLOGY AND BLOOD TRANSFUSION, UNIVERSITY OF ABUJA TEACHING HOSPITAL, ³HAEMATOLOGY, UNIVERSITY OF ABUJA, ABUJA, Nigeria

ABSTRACT: Haematological malignancies are a collection of heterogeneous malignant conditions originating from cells of the bone marrow and the lymphatic system and are derived from a single cell in the marrow or peripheral lymphoid tissue which has undergone genetic alteration. They are a significant cause of morbidity and mortality in Nigeria. There is limited information about the pattern of distribution of these malignancies in our environment. Therefore, the aim was to determine the epidemiology of haematological malignancies and the prevalence of the different haematological malignancies.

This is a hospital based retrospective study that was carried out over a ten-year period (2010 - 2019). Data from the clinic attendance register, the admission/ discharge register, patient's case note and cancer registry were used for the study.

The socio demographics and disease demographics of the 475 patients with haematological malignancies out of a total of 2514 patients with various malignancies were analysed using the statistical package for social science (SPSS) version 15.

The outcome showed that haematological malignancies accounted for 18.9% of all cancer cases seen within the study period. The male to female ratio is 1.4:1. The median age of the study population is 44.6 years with the oldest and youngest being 90 years and 17 months respectively.

Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma (NHL) has the highest prevalence of 24.6% while myelofibrosis (MF) has the least prevalence of (1.3%). The prevalence of other disease entities includes multiple myeloma 16.6%, Chronic myeloid leukaemia (CML) 15.4%, acute myeloid leukaemia (AML) 9.9%, Hodgkin's lymphoma/disease (HL) 9.7%, Chronic lymphocytic leukaemia (CLL) 8.2%, acute lymphoblastic leukaemia (ALL) 7.4%, polycythaemia rubra vera (PRV) 2.5%, essential thrombocythemia 2.3% and myelodysplastic syndrome (MDS) 2.1%.

Haematological malignancies are common in our environment and results were similar to few studies carried out in other tertiary facilities in Nigeria. It was observed that multiple myeloma was significantly higher in our study and this may be due to the advanced diagnostic tools present in our facility for proper diagnosis of this disease.

Disclosure of Interest: None Declared