



SYMPOSIUM ON LYMPHOMAS

Hammamet, Tunisia, 25 - 28 March 1974

EM/SYM.LYMPH./4 (m)

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ENGLISH and FRENCH

THE INCIDENCE OF LYMPHOMAS IN TURKEY

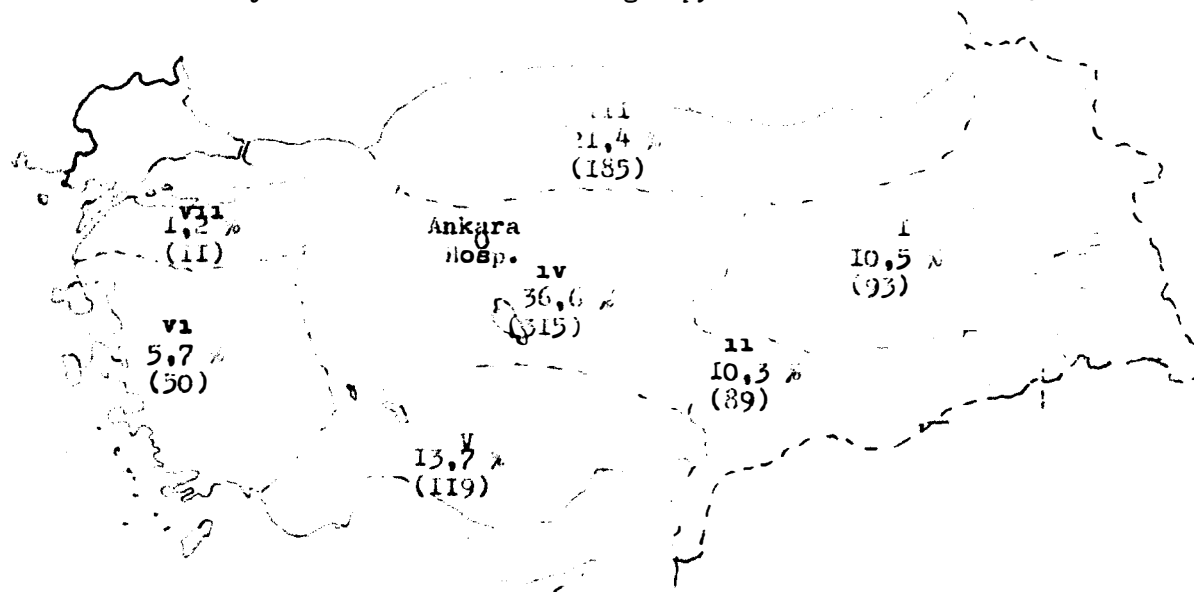
by

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1. Incidence of Lymphomas: Between the years 1964-1972, 12 992 cancer cases have been diagnosed both clinically and histopathologically out of the whole out-patient appliers to our hospital. Of this total, were 8 304 males and 4 688 females. Among the above-mentioned 12 992 cases, only 862 were proven to be lymphoma, which represent the 6,63% of the whole cancer patients.

According to our statistics, lymphomas hold the fourth row among the cancer cases.

2. Epidemiological data: The geographical distribution of the lymphoma cases in Turkey is shown on the following map, as well as on Table I.



*The Cancer Hospital of Ankara, Turkey

As can easily be traced from the above map, our hospital is situated in the middle of Turkey. For this reason, we treat the patients coming mostly from the neighbouring provinces. There is another cancer clinic attached to the University of Istanbul, which accepts the patients from the Marmara District and the Aegean Sea provinces. But, however, the usual treatment centre for the middle and eastern Anatolia is ours. For these locational reasons, the percentage distribution of the cases, shown on the following Table, must be interpreted with caution.

Table 1
The Geographical Distribution of the Cases

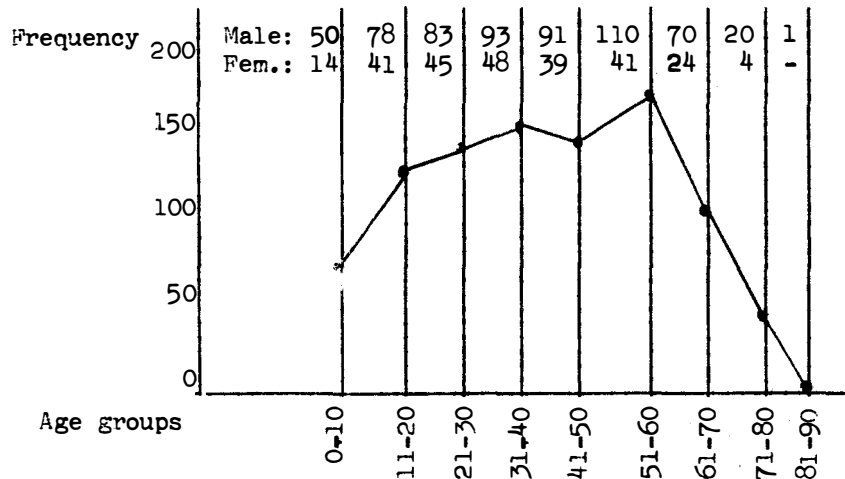
	<u>Region</u>	<u>Number of Cases</u>			<u>Percentage</u>
		<u>male</u>	<u>female</u>	<u>total</u>	
I	East Anatolia	72	21	93	10.5%
II	South-East Anatolia	63	26	89	10.3%
III	Black Sea Region	126	59	185	21.4%
IV	Middle Anatolia	219	96	315	36.6%
V	The Mediterranean	83	36	119	13.7%
VI	The Aegean Sea Region	38	12	50	5.7%
VII	Marmara and Thrace	5	6	11	1.2%
T O T A L		606	256	862	100.0%

Although Middle Anatolia and Black Sea Regions share the biggest proportions with 36.6% and 21.4% respectively, this is largely due to travelling facilities. On the other hand, the Aegean Sea and especially the Marmara and Thrace districts, which are relatively more densely populated and industrialized, are represented with very low percentages, as they are not in the close vicinity of our hospital.

3. Sex: Out of 862 confirmed lymphoma cases, 606 are males and 256 females. In other words, we had 2.4 men suffering from lymphoma per female patient.

4. Age: The age composition of the lymphoma cases is shown on the following Table.

Table 2
The Age Distribution of the Observed Lymphomas

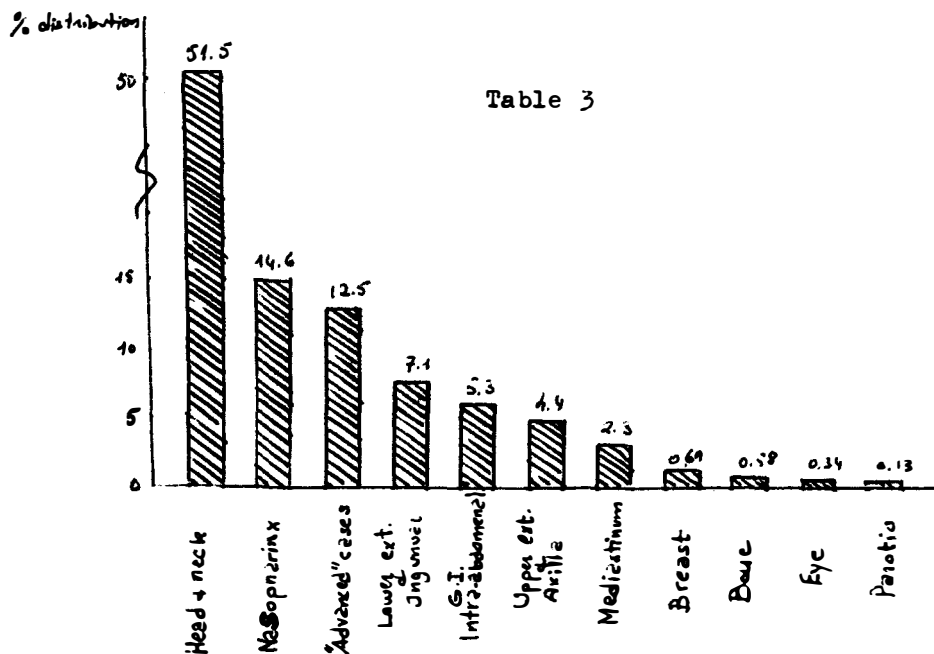


Note: The absolute numbers are shown at the top of the graph.

As seen from the Table, the 50-60 age group leads with the highest number of cases. But, however, attention must be given to the fact that the variation between the ages 20 and 70 is not strikingly high. Incidentally, the youngest patient was a one year old baby boy, while the eldest was eighty-one.

5. Race: Although there are several ethnic groups in Turkey, they all belong to the same race, i.e. the white race. Therefore, we did not have the chance of observing racial peculiarities and characteristics, if any.

6. Clinical and Pathological Synthesis: Tables 3 and 4 show the distribution of lymphomas according to the location:



From the above demonstration it can easily be observed that "head x neck lymphomas" and "nasopharynx" are the most frequently confronted types, whereas breast, bone and eye lymphomas are recorded as rare cases. Table 4 shows this finding quantitatively in absolute number of cases:

Table 4
Location of Observed Lymphomas

<u>Region</u>	<u>Number of Cases</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Head x neck	444	51.5%
Nasopharynx	128	14.6%
"Advanced" cases	108	12.5%
Lower ext. x inguinal	62	7.1%
G.I. Intra-abdominal	46	5.3%
Upper ext. x axilla	38	4.4%
Mediastinum	20	2.3%
Breast	6	0.69%
Bone	5	0.58%
Eye	3	0.34%
Parotis	2	0.13%
	862	100.00%

Lastly, the histopathological distribution of the observed lymphomas is shown on the following Table:

Table 5

<u>Histopathologic types</u>	<u>Number of Cases</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
R.C.S.	173	20.0%
Hodgkin	195	22.6%
Lympho-sarcoma	206	23.9%
Giant F.L.	6	0.7%
Burkitt	-	-
Malignant lymphoma	282	32.8%

It might be noticeable that no burkitt case is met in our country.