

Concurrent Hairy Cell Leukemia and Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia: Diagnostic and Therapeutic Implications

Sir,

In October–December 2018 issue of the *Indian Journal of Medical and Paediatric Oncology*, Anoop *et al.*^[1] described a case of concurrent hairy cell leukemia (HCL) and chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL) in a 68-year-old Indian patient. Regrettably, the authors did not attempt to explain the rare concurrent occurrence of two tumors in the studied patient. I presume that the following point might be relevant. As individuals infected with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) are at an increased risk to develop various tumors,^[2] I presume that an intrinsic genetic predisposition to multiple tumors' development in the studied patient might have been enhanced by the underlying HIV-related immunosuppression. In view of substantial HIV seroprevalence of 0.26% in India compared with a global average of 0.2%,^[3] I presume that HIV testing in the studied patient employing the diagnostic panel of blood CD4 lymphocyte count and viral overload estimations would have to be solicited. If that panel was to reveal HIV positivity, the case in question could be regarded a novel case report of HIV-associated concurrent HCL and CLL in the literature.

Declaration of patient consent

The authors certify that they have obtained all appropriate patient consent forms. In the form the patient(s) has/have given his/her/their consent for his/her/their images and other clinical information to be reported in the journal. The patients understand that their names and initials will not be published and due efforts will be made to conceal their identity, but anonymity cannot be guaranteed.

Financial support and sponsorship

Nil.

Conflicts of interest

There are no conflicts of interest.

Mahmood Dhahir Al-Mendalawi

Department of Paediatrics, Al-Kindy College of Medicine,
University of Baghdad, Baghdad, Iraq

Address for correspondence:

Prof. Mahmood Dhahir Al-Mendalawi,

P.O. Box: 55302, Baghdad Post Office, Baghdad, Iraq.

E-mail: mdalmendalawi@yahoo.com

Submitted: 08-Mar-2019

Accepted in Revised Form: 20-Jun-2019

Published: 24-Apr-2020

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10.4103/ijmpo.ijmpo_68_19

How to cite this article: Al-Mendalawi MD. Concurrent hairy cell leukemia and chronic lymphocytic leukemia: Diagnostic and therapeutic implications. *Indian J Med Paediatr Oncol* 2020;41:102.

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