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Primary CNS lymphoma other than DLBCL: a descriptive analysis of clinical features and treatment outcomes

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Abstract Diffuse large B-cell lymphoma (DLBCL) constitutes most primary central nervous system (CNS) lymphoma (PCNSL), whereas T-cell, low-grade and Burkitt's lymphomas (BL) are rarely encountered. Due to the paucity of cases, little is known about the clinical features and treatment outcomes of PCNSL other than DLBCL. The objective of this study was to describe the clinical characteristics and outcomes for patients with PCNSL other than DLBCL. Fifteen patients, newly diagnosed with PCNSLs other than DLBCL between 2000 and 2010, were included. The male to female ratio was 0.67:1 with a median age of diagnosis of 31 years (range 18-59). Pathologic distributions were as follows: peripheral T-cell lymphoma (PTCL; n=7), marginal zone B-cell lymphoma (MZBCL; n=1), lymphoplasmacytic

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Department of Pathology, Samsung Medical Center, Sungkyunkwan University School of Medicine, Seoul, South Korea lymphoma (LPL; n=2), Burkitt's lymphoma (n=1), other unspecified (T-cell lineage, n=2; B-cell lineage, n=2). Thirteen patients (87%) showed Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group performance score (ECOG PS) 1-2. The remaining two were one PTCL patient and one Burkitt's lymphoma patient. Of the nine patients with Tcell lymphoma, five (56%) had multifocal lesions, and one (20%) with LPL of the five patients with B-cell lymphoma showed a single lesion. Leptomeningeal lymphomatosis was identified in two patients (one with Burkitt's lymphoma and one with unspecified B-cell lymphoma). Two patients (22%) with T-cell lymphoma died 7.7 and 23.3 months later, respectively, due to disease progression, despite HD-MTX-based therapy. Six patients with T-cell lymphoma (6/9, 66.7%) and four patients with low-grade B-cell lymphoma (4/5, 80%) achieved complete response and have survived without relapse (Table 3). One patient with Burkitt's lymphoma showed poor clinical features with ECOG PS 3, deep structure, multifocal, and leptomeningeal lymphomatosis, and died 7.6 months after the initiation of treatment. In comparison with previously reported DLBCLs (median OS 6.4 years, 95% CI 3.7-9.1 years), T-cell lymphoma showed equivocal or favorable clinical outcomes and low-grade B-cell lymphomas, such as MZBCL and LPL, had a good prognosis. However, primary CNS Burkitt's lymphoma presented poor clinical outcomes and showed a comparatively aggressive clinical course. In conclusion, primary CNS lymphoma other than DLBCL occurred more in younger patients and showed a generally good prognosis, except for Burkitt's lymphoma. Further research on treatment strategies for Burkitt's lymphoma is needed.

Keywords Primary CNS lymphoma · Diffuse large B-cell lymphoma



Introduction

Primary central nervous system (CNS) lymphoma (PCNSL) is a rare variant of extranodal non-Hodgkin's lymphoma that occurs in the brain, leptomeninges, spinal cord, or eyes without evidence of systemic disease. It is an aggressive disease with a median survival time of 1.5-3.3 months in untreated patients [20, 23]. PCNSL accounts for approximately 4% of all primary brain tumors and 4-6% of extranodal lymphomas [23]. Diffuse large B-cell lymphoma (DLBCL) is the most common type (>90%) of PCNSL, whereas approximately 10% are T-cell lymphomas (<5%), poorly characterized low-grade lymphomas and Burkitt's lymphoma (BL). Few case reports have been described in the literature [1, 2, 17]. According to the World Health Organization (WHO) classification [30], primary DLBCL of the CNS was categorized as a subclassification of the DLBCL rather than as a separate entity due to indistinguishable morphology from systemic DLBCL. However, the remaining T-cell or other B-cell lymphomas of the CNS are not mentioned, and little is known about their clinical features and treatment outcomes because of their rarity. Therefore, we reviewed our experiences to analyze clinical features and treatment outcomes of 15 patients with rare primary CNS lymphoma other than DLBCL.

Patients and methods

Patients

Fifteen patients diagnosed with PCNSL other than DLBCL from January 2000 to July 2010 were included in this analysis. No patients had been in immunocompromised states brought about by, for example, organ transplantation or HIV infection. The pathologic diagnosis of PCNSL was based on the WHO classification after surgical resection. To evaluate the T- or B-cell lineage of PCNSL, immunohistochemical analysis was performed; and to confirm the T- or B-cell lineage of the tumors, TCR-γ gene and immunoglobulin heavy chain gene rearrangements were examined. The clinical information of patients, including age, sex, symptoms, physical findings, diagnostic procedures, and treatment was retrieved from our electronic medical records. Laboratory findings at diagnosis, such as blood cell counts, chemistry profile, serum protein electrophoresis, serum lactate dehydrogenase (LDH), serology of hepatitis B, C and HIV, and CSF laboratory findings, such as cell counts, protein, glucose, LDH and cytology, and bone marrow examinations were reviewed. Through meticulous physical examination including Waldeyer's ring, chest and abdomino-pelvic computed tomography (CT), and positron emission tomography-CT, patients who had other primary sites of lymphoma were excluded.

Treatment

Data regarding treatment regimens and clinical courses for each patient were extracted from the review of medical records. The treatment course and response of each patient are summarized in Table 3. Treatment cohorts were generally divided into two groups in accordance with the chemotherapy regimen of our institution. Cohort 1[3], diagnosed prior to December 2002, was treated with 1 g/m² of intravenous MTX (HD-MTX 1 g/m² regimen) on days 1 and 8, in addition to 12 mg of intrathecal MTX via an Ommaya reservoir on days 1, 4, 8, 11, 15, and 18. This was followed by whole-brain irradiation (WBRT) and an additional 7.2-14.4 Gy boost to primary tumors. All patients received WBRT, regardless of age. WBRT is a parallel-opposing technique using 4- or 6-MV photons. The median dose was 40 Gy (range 18-50 Gy) in a daily fraction of 2 Gy. After radiotherapy, two cycles of intravenous cytosine arabinoside (HiDAC) at a dose of 3 g/m² on two consecutive days was administered. Leucovorin (25 mg intravenously or orally, every 6 h) was given starting 24 h after intravenous MTX, until the plasma MTX concentration fell below 10⁻⁷ M. Cohort 2 [4], diagnosed from January 2003, was treated with five cycles of 3.5 g/m² of intravenous MTX (HD-MTX 3.5 g/m² regimen) and vincristine 1.4 mg/m² at 2-weekly intervals, with/without procarbazine 100 mg/m² for 7 days on cycles 1, 3, and 5. Intrathecal MTX (12 mg) was given via an Ommaya reservoir at 2-weekly intervals on the alterative weeks of intravenous MTX for five cycles. After the intravenous and intrathecal MTX schedules, a total dose of 30-45 Gy (median 45 Gy) was delivered to the whole brain with the same technique used in cohort 1. Patients with ocular involvement received additional ocular radiotherapy at 30-40 Gy. After completion of WBRT, the majority of patients were treated with HiDAC, as in cohort 1. For patients 60 years and older, WBRT was deferred.

Response evaluation

We reassessed the treatment response in accordance with the International Primary CNS Lymphoma Collaborative Group Guidelines for Response Assessment for Clinical Trials [1]. Complete response (CR) was defined as non-enhancing disease with normal eye examination and negative CSF cytology. Unconfirmed complete response was defined as minor-enhancing disease or minor retina pigment epithelial abnormality with negative CSF cytology. Partial response was defined as a 50% decrease in enhancement regardless of minor retina pigment epithelial



abnormality with negative CSF cytology. Progressive disease was defined as a 25% increase in enhancement/ new site or recurrent/new disease on eye examination or recurrent/positive CSF cytology. Stable disease (SD) was defined as other scenarios not covered by the above criteria. Assessment of treatment response was evaluated at least twice by brain magnetic resonance imaging at the time point between the completion of intravenous and intrathecal MTX and the start of WBRT and/or high-dose cytarabine, and after completion of the planned treatment scheme. CSF cytology was assessed at every intrathecal treatment.

Results

Patient characteristics

The main clinical characteristics of patients at diagnosis are summarized in Table 1. There were six male and nine female patients with a median age of diagnosis of 31 years (range 18–59). According to the WHO classification, histopathologic distribution is shown in Table 3 and as follows: peripheral T-cell lymphoma (PTCL; n=7), marginal zone B-cell lymphoma (MZBCL; n=1), lymphoplasmacytic lymphoma (LPL; n=2), BL (n=1), and other unspecified (T-cell lineage, n=2/B-cell lineage, n=2). PTCL was characterized by a population of predominantly small-sized cells admixed with occasional medium-sized cells positive for polyclonal CD3 antibody, representing a T-cell character of the tumor. The tumors of MZBCL were identical to those of MZBCLs in other sites. They were composed of sheets of small- to medium-sized lymphocytes with moderate amounts of cytoplasm and irregular nuclei, bearing a close resemblance to the small-cleaved cells or centrocytes of the lymphoid follicles. The neoplastic cells were immunoreactive for CD20 and CD79a and did not express CD3, CD5, CD10, or Cyclin D1. No evidence of amyloid deposition was present. Immunoglobulin light chain restriction was detected. No definitive features of transformation to a more aggressive histology were evident. The characters of LPL were immunoreactive for B-cell markers CD20, and negative for the T-cell marker CD3 and bcl. Immunoreactivity for the kappa chain was positive in the one patient. These pathologic findings were consistent with a lymphoplasmacytic lymphoma. Histopathologic examination of BL showed a distinct starry-sky pattern caused by interspersed tangible body macrophages and a diffuse monotonous infiltrate of medium-sized cells with a slight molding pattern. Immunohistochemical analysis revealed the tumor cells expressed LCA, CD10, CD20, and CD79a, but not CD3, CD45RO, CD30, panCK, CD117, BCL2, BCL6, synaptophysin, chromagranin, S-

Table 1 Patients characteristics (N=15)

Characteristics	No. of patients	Percentage	
Age			
Median (range)	31 (18–59)		
Sex			
Male	6	40	
Female	9	60	
ECOG PS			
1	8	53.3	
2	5	33.3	
3	1	6.7	
4	1	6.7	
Pathology			
T-cell	9	60	
B-cell	5	33.3	
Burkitt's lymphoma	1	6.7	
B symptoms	0	0	
Neurologic symptoms			
Headache/vomiting	5	31.3	
Extremity Weakness	6	40	
Paresthesia	1	6.7	
Seizure	1	6.7	
Facial nerve palsy	2	13.3	
Site of disease			
Cerebral hemisphere	8	53.3	
^a Deep structures	6	40	
Spinal cord	1	6.7	
Multiple lesions	6	40	
CSF cytology	2	13.3	
High CSF protein	7	46.7	
High CSF LDH	8	53.3	
High serum LDH	3	20	

^a Basal ganglia, brainstem, corpus callosum, and cerebellum

100 protein, and CD68. The tumor cells also displayed strong and diffuse nuclear positivity of Ki-67.

Most patients initially presented with neurologic symptoms such as headache/vomiting (31.3%), extremity weakness (40%), and facial nerve palsy (13.3%), but without B-cell symptoms such as fever, night sweats, and weight loss. Most patients showed good performance status of ECOG PS 1–2 and two patients had ECOG PS grade 3–4. Eight patients (53.3%) had the disease confined to only the cerebral hemisphere. Six patients (40%) were diagnosed with deep structure lesions such as the medulla (n=2), medulla with spinal cord involvement (n=1), basal ganglia with hippocampus (n=1), thalamus (n=1), and corpus callosum (n=1) and one patient had only a single spinal cord lesion. Multiple lesions (more than two lesions) were detected in six patients (40%). Positive tumor cells in the CSF were found in two patients, including one with



leptomeningeal enhancement of brain MRI. Seven patients (47%) had an elevated concentration of CSF protein, and eight patients (53.3%) had high CSF LDH. Three patients (20%) had an elevated serum LDH level. To facilitate comparison with DLBCL, brief characteristics are shown in Table 2 alongside those of the 50 primary CNS DLBCL patients reported by Uhm et al. [32]. PCNSL other than DLBCL showed a tendency to occur in younger patients. More than half of those with T-cell lymphoma developed multifocal lesions. However, among nine cases of T-cell lymphoma, none had positive CSF cytology, compared with two B-cell lymphoma patients with positive CSF cytology (one with Burkitt's lymphoma and one with low-grade lymphoma).

Treatments and outcomes

The median follow-up time was 39 months (range 1–123 months). PCNSL other than DLBCL did not reach the median survival to date. Data of treatments and clinical outcomes of all patients are shown in Table 3. Of the nine patients with T-cell lymphoma, six patients (66.7%) achieved CR and one patient was alive at 2.5 months with SD. Of the five patients with low-grade B-cell lymphoma, three (60%) achieved CR and one patient was alive at 2.6 months with SD. One patient with LPL of one spinal cord lesion confined to T4 had surgical corpectomy and achieved CR without adjuvant chemotherapy. One patient with Burkitt's lymphoma died at 7.6 months despite HD-MTX-based chemotherapy.

Discussion

We analyzed PCNSL other than DLBCL, which is the most common type of PCNSL, in a single institution. There are few reports about primary CNS T-cell lymphoma, anaplastic large cell lymphoma, low-grade lymphoma, and Burkitt's lymphoma [6, 9, 14, 21, 24, 26, 27, 31]. The incidence of those lymphomas is unknown precisely because of its rarity. It is known that in immunocompetent patients, the median age at diagnosis of PCNSL is 53-57 years. The highest risk group is those 60 years and older [25], and the male to female ratio is 1.2–1.7:1. However, in this study, the median age of PCNSL other than DLBCL was 31 years (range 18-59) with a male-tofemale ratio of 0.67:1. In Western countries, TPCNSL has been reported to constitute less than 4% of all PCNSLs, but in a nationwide survey of PCNSL in Japan, 8% of all cases were of T-cell origin [5, 12, 28]. Out of 121 consecutive PCNSL patients that we have followed up in our center during the last 10 years, nine PCNSL patients had T-cell lymphoma (7.4%), and most of them were PTCL, including two patients with unspecified T-cell lineage. The incidence of TPCNSL in our study is more comparable with Japanese than Western data. These data may correlate with a generally higher incidence of T-cell lymphomas in Far Eastern regions [16]. Shenkier et al. reported that among 45 patients, involvement of deep brain structures was seen in 16 patients (36%) and multiple lesions in 13 patients (29%) at diagnosis [27]. In our study, of the nine patients with TPCNSL, three (30%) had deep structures and five (56%) had multiple lesions. Three patients (#6, 7, 8) had deep locations of disease sites and presented with multiple lesions at the same time. The prognosis for T-cell lymphoma is controversial. There are several reports about primary TPCNSL with poor prognosis [18, 19, 29], and several with good response rates and overall survival time [10, 27]. Of our sample of nine patients, two died due to progressive disease after HD-MTX-based chemotherapy. The remaining six patients are alive in CR except one

Table 2 Patients characteristics compared with 50 cases of PCNS DLBCL [32]

Characteristics	T-cell ^a (N=9)	B-cell other than DLBCL (N=5)	Burkitt's lymphoma (N=1)	DLBCL (N=50)	
Age	33 (18–59)	44 (20–58)	43	51(19–78)	
Male/Female	2/7	4/1	0/1	30/20	
ECOG					
0-2	8 (89%)	5 (100%)		34 (68%)	
3–4	1 (11%)		1(100%)	16 (32%)	
Deep structure	3 (33%)	2 (40%)	1(100%)	39 (78%)	
Multifocal	5 (56%)	1 (20%)	1(100%)	33 (66%)	
CSF cytology	0 (0%)	1 (20%)	1(100%)	19 (38%)	

DLBCL diffuse large B cell lymphoma

T-cell: seven peripheral T cell lymphoma, two unspecified T-cell lymphoma

B-cell other than DLBCL: one marginal zone B-cell lymphoma, two lymphoplasmacytic lymphoma, two unspecified B-cell lymphoma

^a DLBCL, data from Uhm et al.[32]



Table 3 Treatments and outcomes

No.	Sex/age	ECOG PS	Pathology	Major sites	Multiple/CSF	Surgery	Tx.Cohort 1 or 2	Response	status	OS (months)
01	F/59	1	PTCL	Rt. frontal	No/no	Resection	2	CR	AIR	22.9+
02	F/37	1	PTCL	Rt. Frontoparietal	No/no	Biopsy	1	CR	AIR	118.7+
03	F/34	2	PTCL	Rt. Frontoparietal, occipital	YES/no	Resection	2	PD	DOD	23.3
04	F/33	2	PTCL	Rt. parietal, occipital, temporal	Yes/no	Biopsy	1	CR	AlR	121.2+
05	M/31	1	PTCL	Rt. occipital	No/no	Biopsy	1	CR	AlR	121.6+
06	M/22	4	PTCL	Medulla,Spinal cord, Lt.parietal lobe	Yes/no	Biopsy	2	SD	AWD	2.5+
07	F/18	1	PTCL	Basal ganglia, Hippocampus	Yes/no	Biopsy	2	CR	AIR	15.3+
08	F/26	2	T-lineage	Medulla, Both. frontal Lt. temporal	Yes/no	Biopsy	2	PD	DOD	7.7
09	F/46	1	T-lineage	Frontoparietal	No/no	Resection	1	CR	AIR	123.8+
10	M/57	1	MZBCL	Thalamus	No/no	Biopsy	2	CR	AlR	39.4+
11	M/26	2	B-lineage	Rt. Frontoparietal	No/yes	Biopsy	1	CR	AIR	103.5+
12	M/50	2	LPL	T4 Spinal cord	No/no	Resection	Corpectomy	CR	AIR	51.0+
13	M/38	1	LPL	Corpus callosum, Lt. frontal	Yes/no	Biopsy	2	SD	AWD	2.6+
14	F/43	3	BL	Medulla, LEMS	No/yes	Biopsy	2	PD	DOD	7.6
15	F/20	1	B-lineage	Lt. parietal	No/no	Biopsy	2	PD	F/L	78.4

PTCL peripheral T-cell lymphoma, MZBCL marginal zone B-cell lymphoma, LPL lymphoplasmacytic lymphoma, BL Burkitt's lymphoma, LEMS leptomeningeal seeding, CR complete response, PR partial response, SD stable disease, PD progressive disease, AIR alive in remission, AWD alive with disease, DOD dead of disease, F/L follow-up loss, Tx treatment, ECOG PS Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group performance score

patient with SD at the 2.5-month follow-up. Although we could not draw conclusions on the prognosis of TPCNSL because of retrospective data and small patient numbers, our data showed equivocal or favorable clinical outcomes when compared with patients with DLBCL. It is meaningful that our study population was treated in a similar manner with HD-MTX-based treatment plus radiotherapy.

Uncommonly, MZBCL may present as a slowly growing localized mass arising from meningothelial cells of the dura (primary dural lymphoma), especially of the cerebral convexity, with rare cerebral parenchymal infiltration [13]. The origin site was not the dura but a single lesion of the thalamus. It is known that MZBCL is very radiosensitive. Treatment options for primary CNS MZBCL have ranged from local therapy to a combination with systemic chemotherapy [22]. Iwamoto et al. reported that eight patients with CNS MZBCL achieved complete response to treatment and no patient developed CNS recurrence during a median follow-up of 2 years (range 0.7–8.9 years). However, three patients developed systemic relapse after a median of 6.8 years (range 0.9-7.5 years). Bayraktar et al. showed that of six patients with primary CNS MZBCL, four achieved complete remission, and one relapsed at the same site after 5 years [6]. The results show that primary CNS MZBCLs display indolent clinical behavior and have a generally favorable clinical outcome with long-term disease control and survival. In our study, one patient (#10) received systemic chemotherapy and radiotherapy and is alive in complete remission at 39.4 months. Our study also showed that primary CNS MZBCL had a good prognosis despite involvement of a deep structure (thalamus). A review of the literature indicates that local therapy with radiation alone shows favorable outcomes (Table 4). Given these results, local treatment alone can be considered to be an effective modality for primary CNS MZBCL.

We found two reports of primary CNS LPL [7, 15]. Carrasco et al. reported a pituitary LPL patient maintained complete remission for 4 years after transsphenoidal surgery, chemotherapy, and radiotherapy [7]. We experienced one patient with a spinal cord LPL at T4 level. The patient (#12) received only surgical resection (corpectomy) without neurologic sequela and has lived without relapse for 51 months. Another patient, with LPL at the corpus callosum and left frontal lobe, is receiving the cohort 2 regimen. The interim evaluation is SD at 2.6 months. For these two patients, the prognosis of LPL seems to be satisfactory. Two patients did not show systemic symptoms



Table 4 Primary CNS B-cell lymphoma other than DLBCL with literature review

Author	Main symptoms	Age/ sex	Histology	Location	Surgery	Chemotherapy	Radiotherapy	Outcome
Iwamoto et al. [3]	Headache	64/F	MZBCL	Rt. temporoparietal	Partial resection	HD-MTX, IT MTX, vincristine, procarbazine, HD-cytarabine	WBRT (45 Gy)	CR for 6.6 years
	Partial seizure	33/F	MZBCL	Lt. forntal and temporal	Biopsy	IT MTX, IT cytarabine	WBRT (30 Gy)	CR for 7.2 years
	Headache	35/M	MZBCL	Lt. tentorium and frontoparietal	Biopsy	IT thiopeta, HD-MTX, vincristine, temozolomide, Rtituximab	WBRT (30 Gy)	CR for 4.5 years
	Tonic-clonic seizure	47/M	MZBCL	Lt. tentorium	Partial resection	None	IMRT (30 Gy)	CR for 2.3 years
Bayraktar et al.	Headache	?	MZBCL	Lt. lateral ventricle, cavernous sinus		None	WBRT (16 Gy), IMRT (36 Gy)	CR for 4 years
	Seizure	?	MZBCL	Frontal, occipital	CTX	AZT+HD-MTX		CR for 5 years
	Blurred vision	?	MZBCL	Bilateral intraocular	Bilateral vitrectomy	DeAngelis protocol	Orbital RT	CR for 6 months
Park et al. [6]	Facial nerve palsy	18/M	MZBCL	Lt. basal ganglia	Biopsy		RT	CR for 18 months
Carrasco et al. [2]	headache	49/F	LPL	Pituitary	Biopsy	HD-MTX, IT MTX, HD-cytarabine	IMRT (30 GY)	CR for 4 years
Kobayashi et al. [4]	Headache	55/F	BL	Rt. tempororarietal	Resection	None	None	Died 1 months later
Spath-Schwalbe et al. [7]	Vertigo	40/M	BL	Cerebellum and pons	Biopsy	HD-MTX	WBRT	CR for 1 year
Wilkening et al. [8]	Back pain	43/F	BL	Epidural lesion at the L2- L3	Excision	IT MTX, cyclophosphamide, vincristin, methotrexate, ifosfamide, adriamycin, and dexamethasone	IMRT	CR for 2 years
Monabati et al. [5]	Lt. weakness	49/F	BL	Lt. parietal	Total resection	СНОР	Craniospinal RT (32 Gy)	CR for 6 months

MZBCL marginal zone B-cell lymphoma, LPL lymphoplasmacytic lymphoma, BL Burkitt's lymphoma, IT intrachecal, MTX methotrexate, AZT azacytidine, CHOP cyclpphosphamide, doxorubicin, vincristine, prednisolone, WBRT whole brain radiation therapy, IMRT intensity modulated radiation therapy, CR complete remis

and signs such as IgM paraproteinemia, neuropathy, and hyperviscosity.

Since Valsamis described the first case of primary CNS Burkitt's lymphoma in an infant in 1976 [33], there have been several case reports of primary CNS Burkitt's lymphoma [11]. The reported data showed poor clinical outcome. In our institution, one patient was diagnosed with primary CNS Burkitt's lymphoma at the medulla and a leptomeningeal lesion with positive tumor cells in the CSF. Although the patient received HD-MTX-based chemotherapy, the final response was poor and the patient died at 7.6 months with progressive disease. Given other reports that show a poor outcome of primary CNS Burkitt's lymphoma, HD-MTX-based chemotherapy does not appear to have an efficacious outcome. Therefore, more effective and aggressive treatment approaches for CNS Burkitt's lymphoma are needed. In the literature review with our data, low-grade B-cell lymphoma, such as MZBCL and LPL, showed good prognosis, whereas Burkitt's lymphoma showed an unfavorable clinical outcome (Table 4).

Reported 5-year survival rates after conventional treatment with HD-MTX, either as a single agent or in combination, followed by WBRT, is close to 40% [8]. Although heterogeneous and small number of cases does not warrant that these disease entities has the good prognosis than DLBCL, primary CNSLs, T-cell or B-cell lymphoma, other than DLBCL showed satisfactory treatment outcome in our series except for Burkitt's lymphoma.

In this study, we described our experiences of primary CNS lymphoma other than DLBCL and made a historical comparison with previously reported DLBCL data from our institute. T-cell lymphoma showed equivocal or favorable clinical outcomes, and low-grade B-cell lymphomas such as MZBCL and LPL showed a good prognosis. However, CNS Burkitt's lymphoma is more aggressive and presents a poor clinical outcome. Further research about treatment strategies for Burkitt's lymphoma is needed. Additional analysis with a larger study population, including patients from other institutes, should be warranted.



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