

CANCER INCIDENCE IN PULMONARY VASCULITIS

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p Pulmonary vasculitis is a potentially lethal autoimmune disease characterized by granulomatous inflammation of respiratory tract necrotizing vasculitis affecting small-to medium-size vessels and antineutrophil cytoplasmic antibodies elevation Typical therapy for remission induction classically involves high-dose glucocorticosteroids in connection with cyclophosphamide in dose - mg kg per day The high relapse rate in pulmonary vasculitis means prolonged courses of cyclophosphamide in some patients Carcinogenic effects of cyclophosphamide especially toxic metabolite acrolein which is excreted into the urine are responsible to a high risk for acute myeloid leukemia AML and bladder cancer following treatment with cyclophosphamide and the risk of secondary malignancies was also dose-dependent The aim of the study was to assess the incidence of cancer in patients with pulmonary vasculitis and compared to incidence of cancer in general population Analyses were done according to cumulative cyclophosphamide CYC doses as low g and high doses g During observation cancers occurred Significantly increased standardized incidence ratio SIR were observed for skin cancer non-melanoma skin cancers SIR CI - acute myeloid leukemia AML SIR CI - bladder cancer SIR CI - Induction remission treatment and relapse treatment with cumulative cyclophosphamide doses implies a substantial risk of late appearing serious malignancies in patients