



Clinical study of tumor necrosis factor –alpha and interleukin- 10 in serum of patients with lymphoma

336

Estudio clínico del factor de necrosis tumoral alfa e interleucina -10 en suero de pacientes con linfoma

¹Lelas Farhan Bdaiwi Lelas.farhan@uomosul.edu.iq ²Zeena Usama Jasim zeena.jasim@uomosul.edu.iq ³Yusur Farhan Bdaiwi Yusurfarhan80@gmail.com
Orcid ID: 0000-0003-4481-9627 Orcid ID: 0000-0001-8945-4591
Orcid ID: 0009-0004-4269-1185

^{1,2}Department of Chemistry, Collage of Education for Girls, University of Mosul, Iraq, Mosul

³Department of Hematology, Ibn-Sina teaching hospital, Mosul health directorate, Mosul, Iraq.

*Corresponding author: Lelas Farhan Bdaiwi, Email: Lelas.farhan@uomosul.edu.iq

Received: 06/20/2022 Accepted: 09/19/2023 Published: 10/25/2023 DOI: <http://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.10108821>

Abstract

Background: Cytokines may have an important function in lymphoma, local manufacturing of those cytokines causes multiple systemic effect in the peripheral blood

Aim: This study was performed to assess the role of tumor necrosis factor alpha and interleukin-10 in lymphoma patients.

Materials and Methods: This case-control study included (88) Participants were assembled at the Ibn Sina Teaching Hospital in Mosul and separated into two groups (58) patients with lymphoma and (30) healthy person. Specialized doctors were diagnosed the patients based on immunophenotyping and morphology using either immunohistochemistry or flow cytometry. The study included estimation of tumor necrosis factor alpha (TNF- α), interleukin-10(IL-10), C-reactive protein (CRP), platelets (PLT) and white blood cells (WBC), in patients with lymphoma compared to healthy group. The study also included estimating of these parameters after three months of chemotherapy.

Findings: The results clarified a significant rise at $p \leq 0.05$ in the levels of TNF- α (1170 ± 73.5 vs 165.7 ± 34.6), IL-10 (2266 ± 265.2 vs 92.6 ± 6.38), CRP (88.4 ± 4.2

vs 9.2 ± 2.1), WBC (51.77 ± 12.76 vs 6.31 ± 1.55) and a significant decrease in PLT (330 ± 30.5 vs 100.09 ± 24.67) in lymphoma patient in comparison to healthy. The results also showed a positive correlation between TNF- α with IL-10, CRP and WBC, while there was a negative correlation with PLT (at $p \leq 0.05$). Also, the results clarified that levels of TNF- α and IL-10 were decreased significantly (at $p \leq 0.05$) to (886 ± 63.8) and (988 ± 95.8) respectively after three months of chemotherapy.

Conclusion: The assessed levels of TNF- and IL-10 in lymphoma patients may play a significant role in lymphoma development and may be crucial for lymphoma diagnosis and treatment.

Keywords: Lymphoma, Tumor necrosis Factor alpha, Interleukin-10, Chemotherapy.

Antecedentes: las citocinas pueden tener una función importante en el linfoma, la fabricación local de esas citocinas provoca múltiples efectos sistémicos en la sangre periférica.

Objetivo: Este estudio se realizó para evaluar el papel del factor de necrosis tumoral alfa y la interleucina-10 en pacientes con linfoma.

Materiales y métodos: este estudio de casos y controles incluyó a (88) participantes reunidos en el Hospital Universitario Ibn Sina de Mosul y separados en dos grupos (58) pacientes con linfoma y (30) personas sanas. Médicos especializados diagnosticaron a los pacientes basándose en inmunofenotipado y morfología mediante inmunohistoquímica o citometría de flujo. El estudio incluyó la estimación del factor de necrosis tumoral alfa (TNF- α), interleucina-10 (IL-10), proteína C reactiva (PCR), plaquetas (PLT) y glóbulos blancos (WBC), en pacientes con linfoma en comparación con grupo sano. El estudio también incluyó la estimación de estos parámetros después de tres meses de quimioterapia.

Hallazgos: Los resultados aclararon un aumento significativo en $p \leq 0,05$ en los niveles de TNF- α ($1170 \pm 73,5$ vs $165,7 \pm 34,6$), IL-10 ($2266 \pm 265,2$ vs $92,6 \pm 6,38$), PCR ($88,4 \pm 4,2$ vs $9,2 \pm 2,1$), WBC ($51,77 \pm 12,76$ vs $6,31 \pm 1,55$) y una disminución significativa en PLT ($330 \pm 30,5$ vs $100,09 \pm 24,67$) en pacientes con linfoma en comparación con sanos. Los resultados también mostraron una correlación positiva entre TNF- α con IL-10, PCR y WBC, mientras que hubo una correlación negativa con PLT (en $p \leq 0,05$). Además, los resultados aclararon que los niveles de TNF- α e IL-10 disminuyeron significativamente (en $p \leq 0,05$) a ($886 \pm 63,8$) y ($988 \pm 95,8$) respectivamente después de tres meses de quimioterapia.

Conclusión: Los niveles evaluados de TNF- e IL-10 en pacientes con linfoma pueden desempeñar un papel importante en el desarrollo del linfoma y pueden ser cruciales para el diagnóstico y tratamiento del linfoma.

Palabras clave: Linfoma, Factor de necrosis tumoral alfa, Interleucina-10, Quimioterapia.

Lymphoma is a heterogeneous mix of B-cell, T-cell, and occasionally helper killer cell cancers that commonly start in the lymph nodes but can affect any organ in the body. Expanded lymph nodes, fever, immersion sweats, unintentional weight loss, itching, and a persistent feeling of exhaustion are some possible signs and symptoms. The enlarged lymph nodes don't hurt. Sweats are prevalent and not rare at night¹.

(TNF α) is a Cytokine manufactured normally via Monocytes and Macrophages It is discovered in synovial cells and macrophages in the tissues. TNF serves a crucial role in the organization of immune cells. It's capable of result in Apoptotic cellular demise, to implicate irritation, and to obstruct Tumorigenesis and viral replication. Disorder of regulation of TNF α production has been implicated in a ramification of human diseases, including the major cancers. Recombinant TNF α used as an immune stimulant below the INN tasonermin. TNF- α can be manufactured ectopically inside the placing of malignancy and parallels parathyroid hormone each in inflicting minor hypercalcemia and within the carcinoma with immoderate manufacturing is related²⁻⁴.

A frame of evidence has indicated that TNF- α mediates severe crucial techniques of tumor improvement, regarding the activation of oncogenes, DNA degradation, and dissemination of a tumor. The TNF- α overexpression is intently related to tumor recurrence and advantageous lymph node metastasis in CRC patients⁵ IL- 10 is a pleiotropic cytokine recognized for its mighty anti-inflammatory and immune repressive consequences Originally recognized as a made of T helper cells, It's is now known to be manufactured by way of diverse Myeloid- and lymphoid-derived immune cells taking part in each innate and adaptive immunity⁶. Our research aimed to evaluate the role of TNF and IL-10 in lymphoma patients as well as their relationship to specific biochemical variables.

This case- control study was done during the period from July 2022 to January 2023. It involved thirty healthy participants and fifty-eight lymphoma patients who were diagnosed by specialized doctors at Ibn Sina Teaching Hospital in Mosul city. Their age ranged from 20-60 years for both sexes. In accordance with the Helsinki Declaration, samples were taken after receiving the patients informed written consent. Inclusion criteria include all lymphoma patients diagnosed by histopathological and hematopathological examination, while exclusion criteria include lymphoma patients with fever and infection.

Biochemical analysis :

1- Competitive enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) was used to estimate

TNF α and IL-10. Cat. Nos. E0082Hu and 20211104 respectively. . 2- CRP was calculated by BIOLABO (France) Cat. No. 318128 using a colorimetric method.

3- Automated devices (cell-DYN, Ruby Abbott diagnostic USA) were used to measure PLT and WBC⁷.

Statistical Analysis:

Software called SPSS version 28.0 was used to examine the data. T-test was used to describe the deference between the biochemical parameters in the groups (patients and healthy) (at diagnosis and after three months of chemotherapy) at the property of $P \leq 0.05^8$.

Results

According to the findings, patients had significantly higher levels of TNF, IL-10, CRP, and WBC than the healthy group, whereas there was a significantly lower level of PLT as can be shown in table 1.

According to the findings, TNF- was positively correlated with IL-10, CRP, and WBC and negatively correlated with PLT, as shown in table 2.

The results also indicate that the levels of TNF- α and IL-10 were significantly higher in older patients than younger one and in male than female patients and in advanced stages of the disease than earlier stages as shown in table 3 the stages of the disease were determined according to CT scan and bone marrow study.

Table 1: Concentrations of TNF- α , IL-10 and some biochemical parameters in lymphoma patients compared to healthy.

Biochemical parameters	1Mean \pm SD	TNF α (pg/ml)	IL-10 (ng/L)	CRP (mmol/l)	PLT(plt/ μ l)	WBC \times 1000/mm ³)
Healthy (n=30)		165.7 \pm 34.6	92. 6 \pm 6.38	9.2 \pm 2.1	319 \pm 25.1	6.31 \pm 1.55
Patients (n=58)		1170 \pm 73.5*	2266 \pm 265.2*	88.4 \pm 4.2*	100.09 \pm 24.67*	51.77 \pm 12.76*

clarified a significant difference at $p \leq 0.05$

Table 2: Correlation between certain variables and TNF-a.

Biochemical parameters	Positive correlation	P value
IL-10	0.816	$p \leq 0.05$
CRP	0.308	$p \leq 0.05$
PLT	-0.278	$p \leq 0.05$
WBC	0.085	$p \leq 0.05$

Table 3: Correlation between TNF- α and IL-10 with the other parameters in lymphoma patients.

Parameter (Mean \pm SD)		No.	IL -10	TNF- α	P value
Age (years)	<45	20	1940.89 \pm 90.5	886.89 \pm 70.5	$p \leq 0.05$
	≥ 45	38	2110.45 \pm 111.6	988.59 \pm 60.8	$p \leq 0.05$
Gender	Male	38	2320.76 \pm 160.5*	1386.29 \pm 110.5*	$p \leq 0.05$
	Female	20	1960.48 \pm 134.5	1040.79 \pm 120.6	$p \leq 0.05$
B- symptom	Positive	40	2200.98 \pm 184.9*	1218.89 \pm 90.5*	$p \leq 0.05$
	Negative	18	1999.89 \pm 174.5	1086.59 \pm 115.5	$p \leq 0.05$
Bulky disease	Positive	7	2400.56 \pm 164.6*	1311.29 \pm 95.85*	$p \leq 0.05$
	Negative	51	1950.76 \pm 194.6	1006.99 \pm 85.57	$p \leq 0.05$
Stage	Stage I	-			
	Stage II	8	1970.89 \pm 184.6	1045.59 \pm 118.5	$p \leq 0.05$
	Stage III	15	2220.78 \pm 157.7	1276.69 \pm 89.5	$p \leq 0.05$
	Stage IV	35	2500.26 \pm 166.6*	1486.59 \pm 105.5*	$p \leq 0.05$

indicate a significant difference at $p \leq 0.05$

The results clarified that TNF- α , IL-10 and WBC levels were reduced significantly after three months of chemotherapy while PLT concentration was significantly increased as shown in table 4.

Biochemical parameters	Groups (Mean \pm SD)		P value
	patients before chemotherapy (at diagnosis)	patients after 3month of chemotherapy	
TNF- α (pg/mL)	1170 \pm 73.5	886 \pm 63.8*	p \leq 0.05
IL -10 ng/L	2266 \pm 265.2	988 \pm 95.8*	p \leq 0.05
WBC (\times 1000/mm3)	51.77 \pm 12.76	8.78 \pm 9.46*	p \leq 0.05
Neutrophil %	1.59 \pm 0.50	6.70 \pm 1.25*	p \leq 0.05
Plat (\times 1000/mm3)	100.09 \pm 24.67	200.48 \pm 29.88*	p \leq 0.05

* indicate a significant difference at p \leq 0.05

Discussion

The high concentrations of TNF- α and IL-10 in serum of patients in our study was in agreement with previous study which clarified that higher tumor burden and worse survival are correlated with high levels of these cytokines⁹, or due to hemorrhagic necrosis in the body with suppressing of tumor vessel and ischemia. It additionally eases tumor cell lysis with the aid of activate anti-tumor immune reaction. TNF- α could work synergistically with different cytokines to activate tumor death¹⁰. TNF- has the ability to generate a variety of chemokines and cytokines, which can be employed as pro-tumorigenic sports activities with additional genetic change to tumor cells and activation of tumor cell duration¹³, cytokines in malignant cells can stimulate nearby immunosuppression and angiogenesis¹⁴. The significant increase in of IL -10 levels in patients could be due to that Interleukins have validated to raise tumorigenesis by means of autocrine or paracrine mechanism and had a suppressive effect on the immune gadget directed against the tumor¹⁵. CRP is a delicate indicator to measure tissue injury. CRP levels are clearly elevated in cases of severe inflammation, and it can identify a variety of infections as well as damaged or necrotic cellular components by gathering with C-polysaccharide at the bacterial cellular wall. It uses a variety of compounds including C-polysaccharide and phospholipid in its administration, and it may activate the supplement device in the conventional approach to eliminate those infections and necrotic cells¹⁶. Our findings were comparable to Alwan AF et al study in that lymphoma patients' mean age was 52.43.1 years, with a range of 30-78 years¹⁷. In accordance with Yaqo RT. et al.'s findings, which reported a male predominance with a male to female ratio of 2:1, our data also revealed that the ratio of male to female lymphoma patients was 1.9:1¹⁸. The results also clarified that the higher percent-

Conclusions

The elevated levels of IL-10 and TNF found in lymphoma patients may be crucial in the growth of the disease. Their negative effects are associated with advanced disease stages, bulky disease, and B-symptoms.

Acknowledgments

The authors thanks Mosul University for permitting them to carry out their research in their lab.

Study limitations:

Low sample size and conducting the study only in one city may prevent generalization of results.

Conflict of interest: None

References

1. Press O W, Lichtman M A. General considerations for Lymphomas: Epidemiology, Etiology, Heterogeneity, Primary Extranodal Disease. Williams Hematology. 9th ed. New York: McGraw-Hill Education, 2016:1569-86.
2. Song Z, Xu Y, Bao L. et al. From SARS to MERS, Thrusting Coronaviruses into the Spotlight. *Viruses* 2019;14(11):1-59. doi: 10.3390/v11010059.
3. Tojek K, Anaszewicz M, Szukay B. et al. Circulating leptin, adiponectin, and tumor necrosis factor-alpha in patients undergoing surgery due to colorectal cancer. *Digestion* 2021; 102(2):246-255. <https://doi.org/10.1159/000504507>

4. Dharmapradita MW, Suyasa IK, Karna MB. et al. High Expression of Parathyroid Hormone-related Protein and Tumor Necrosis Factor- α in Cancer Cells as Risk Factors for Hypercalcemia in Bone Metastases Lytic Lesions. *Open Access Maced J Med Sci* 2021; 9(B):290-6. <https://oamjms.eu/index.php/mjms/article/view/5951>.
5. Zhang C, Zhu M, Wang W. et al. TNF- α promotes tumor lymph angiogenesis in head and neck squamous cell carcinoma through regulation of ERK3. *Transl Cancer Res* 2019;8(6):2439-2448. doi:10.21037/tcr.2019.09.60.
6. Hao F, Tan W, Jiang L. et al. Do psychiatric patients experience more psychiatric symptoms during COVID-19 pandemic and lockdown? A case-control study with service and research implications for immunopsychiatry. *Brain Behav Immun* 2020;87:100-106. doi: 10.1016/j.bbi.2020.04.069.
7. Bain B J. Preparation and Staining Methods for Blood and Bone Marrow Films. *Dacie and Lewis Practical Haematology: Twelfth Edition*.2017: 50–60.
8. Hinton PR. *Statistics Explained: A Guide for Social Science Students*. 2nd Edition 2014. Routledge. <https://doi.org/10.4324/9780203496787S>.
9. Mozas P, Rivas-Delgado A, Rivero A. et al. High serum levels of IL-2R, IL-6, and TNF- α are associated with higher tumor burden and poorer outcome of follicular lymphoma patients in the rituximab era. *Leuk Res* 2020;94:106371. doi: 10.1016/j.leukres.2020.106371.
10. Stanilova A, Dobreva Z G, Slavov E S, and L. D. Miteva. C3 binding glycoprotein from *Cuscuta europea* induced different cytokine profiles from human PBMC compared to other plant and bacterial immunomodulators. *International Immunopharmacology* 2005; 5(4):723-734. doi: 10.1016/j.intimp.2004.12.003.
11. Van Loo G, Bertrand MJM. Death by TNF: a road to inflammation. *Nat Rev Immunol*2023; 23: 289–303. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41577-022-00792-3>
12. Laha D, Grant R, Mishra P, Nilubol N. The Role of Tumor Necrosis Factor in Manipulating the Immunological Response of Tumor Microenvironment. *Front Immunol* 2021 ;27(12):656908. doi: 10.3389/fimmu.2021.656908.
13. Yaseen MM, Abuharfeil NM, Darmani H, Daoud A. Mechanisms of immune suppression by myeloid-derived suppressor cells: the role of interleukin-10 as a key immunoregulatorycytokine. *Open-Bio*2020; 10:200111. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1098/rsob.200111>
14. Sproston NR, Ashworth JJ. Role of C-Reactive Protein at Sites of Inflammation and Infection. *Front Immunol* 2018; 13(9):754. doi: 10.3389/fimmu.2018.00754.
15. Alwan A F, Al- Rahal N k, Shabeeb Z A. Incidence of Epstein Barr Virus infection in newly diagnosed non- Hodgkin Lymphoma in the national center of hematology – single center study. *Iraqi Journal of Cancer and Medical Genetics* 2014; 7:21-25
16. Yaqo RT, Hughson MD, Sulayvani FK, Al-Allawi NA. Malignant lymphoma in northern Iraq: a retrospective analysis of 270 cases according to the World Health Organization classification. *Indian J Cancer* 2011; 48(4):446-51. doi: 10.4103/0019-509X.92276.
17. Cortes J, Kurzrock R. Interleukin-10 in non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. *Leuk Lymphoma* 1997;26(3-4):251-9. doi: 10.3109/10428199709051774.
18. Calip GS, Patel PR, Adimadhyam S. et al. Tumor necrosis factor-alpha inhibitors and risk of non-Hodgkin lymphoma in a cohort of adults with rheumatologic conditions. *Int J Cancer* 2018;143(5):1062-1071. doi: 10.1002/ijc.31407.
19. Berberoglu U, Yildirim E, Celen O. Serum levels of tumor necrosis factor alpha correlate with response to neoadjuvant chemotherapy in locally advanced breast cancer. *Int J Biol Markers* 2004;19(2):130–4. [PubMed: 15255545].
20. Kim S, Keku TO, Martin C. et al. Circulating levels of inflammatory cytokines and risk of colorectal adenomas. *Cancer Res* 2008;68(1):323–8. [PubMed:18172326].