



NORTHWEST AIDS EDUCATION AND TRAINING CENTER

# HIV-Associated Hematology/Oncology

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April 26, 2012

# AIDS-Defining Malignancies

- Kaposi sarcoma
- Non-Hodgkin lymphoma (NHL)
- Primary central nervous system lymphoma
- Invasive cervical cancer

# Non AIDS-Defining Malignancies

- Anal cancer (120 fold↑)
- Hodgkin lymphoma (20 fold↑)
- Hepatocellular cancer (5 fold↑)
- Lung cancer (2 fold↑)

Note: Risk of breast cancer, prostate cancer, colon cancer is not increased in HIV positive people in comparison to HIV negative people

# Non AIDS-Defining Malignancies

- In the HAART era, non AIDS-defining malignancies comprise 60% of the cancers in people living with HIV
- We should offer age appropriate cancer screening to our HIV positive patients

# Kaposi Sarcoma: Symptoms

- Skin: Cosmetic
- Feet: Pain when walking
- Lungs:
  - Dyspnea
  - Cough
  - Chest pain
  - Hemoptysis
- Gastrointestinal:
  - Weight loss
  - Abdominal pain
  - Bleeding

# Kaposi Sarcoma: Physical Exam

- Predilection for face (nose), oral cavity, feet
- Carefully inspect face, around eyes, conjunctiva, around ears
- Look at hard palate and gums
- Look at dorsal and plantar aspect of feet
- Look for woody lymphedema of legs







# Kaposi Sarcoma: Indications for Therapy

- Appearance
- Symptomatic foot involvement
- Pulmonary involvement
- Gastrointestinal involvement
- Lymphedema

# Kaposi Sarcoma: Treatment

- Institute HAART
- Over 3-6 months, Kaposi sarcoma lesions improve in 80% of patients
- Immune reconstitution inflammatory syndrome
  - Progression of Kaposi sarcoma over 2 months after starting HAART

# Kaposi Sarcoma: Treatment

- Doxil (liposomal doxorubicin)
- Response rate = 65%
  - Mainly partial response
  - Onset 6 weeks
- Side effects minimal
  - Rare neutropenia/anemia
  - No hair loss
  - No heart damage

# Lymphoma in HIV-Positive People

- ~100-fold increased incidence of aggressive NHL (in comparison to HIV-negative people)
- Some increased incidence of Hodgkin lymphoma
- Primary central nervous system lymphoma: CD4 < 50/ $\mu$ l (and often < 10/ $\mu$ l)

# Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma

- A neoplasm originating in a single lymphocyte (usually a B lymphocyte)
- Symptoms:
  - Painless adenopathy
  - “B” symptoms
    - Fever
    - Sweats (drench the sheets)
    - Weight loss (10% of body weight in 6 months)

# Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma

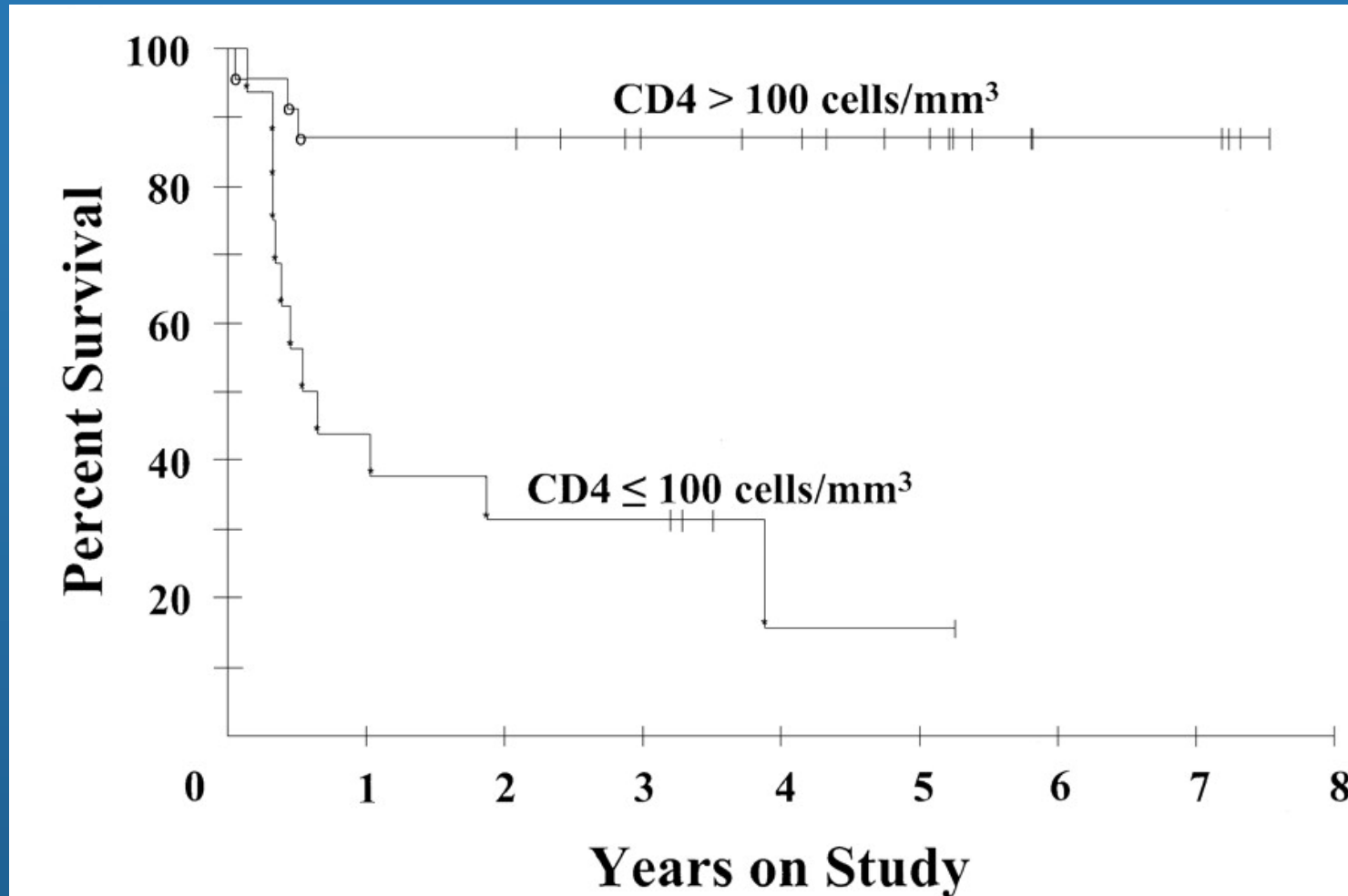
- Exam:
  - Rubbery adenopathy (cervical, supraclavicular, axillary, inguinal nodes, look at tonsils and gums)
  - Splenomegaly
- Labs:
  - Complete blood count often normal
  - Lactate dehydrogenase often elevated

# Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma

- Diagnosis:
  - Excisional or incisional biopsy of a lymph node
- Pathology determines prognosis and treatment!

(There are more than 20 types of NHL, and you also need to distinguish NHL from Hodgkin lymphoma)

# DA-EPOCH: Overall Survival of NHL Patients Based on CD4 Count





# Treatment of HIV-Associated Diffuse Large B Cell Lymphoma

- Dose-adjusted R-EPOCH or R-CHOP
- HAART
  - Avoid zidovudine (low blood counts)
- Supportive care with peg-filgrastim, pneumocystis prophylaxis