Remarkable survival improvement for European patients with haematological malignancies from 1997 to 2008

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Objective

Innovative effective treatment for haematological malignancies (HMs) have become available since 2000’s.

The aim of this study was to estimate time trends in population-based survival for 11 lymphoid and myeloid malignancies, in particular for diffuse large B-cell lymphoma (DLBCL), follicular lymphoma (FL), chronic myeloid leukaemia (CML) and acute promyelocytic leukaemia (APL).

Results

5 CRs excluded because: >14% DCO or autopsy; >30% cases not microscopically verified

102 European cancer registries (CRs) recording adult HMs cases

35 CRs had continuous incident data from 1992 to 2007

30 CRs included in the study

Analyses by European area

Analyses by age at diagnosis

Discussion

The increased survival over time is likely attributable linked to the diffusion of targeted and other new effective treatments. The large differences in cancer survival across Europe suggest inequalities in the provision of care and the availability of new treatments. Population-based high resolution studies, collecting data on morphology, treatments and stage, can provide evidence of the above written hypotheses.

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