

Cutaneous T-cell Lymphomas (CTCL)

Overview:

- CTCLs are a heterogeneous group of T-cell lymphomas mainly affecting the skin but can also involve the lymph nodes, blood or other organs
- The 2 most common CTCLs are Mycosis Fungoides (MF) and Sèzary Syndrome (SS)
- MF is the most prevalent CTCL, often appearing as a rash similar to eczema or psoriasis
- SS is a leukemia form of CTCL found in the peripheral blood and often presents as inflamed, itchy skin
- CTCLs are often difficult to diagnosis since symptoms mimic other skin conditions



SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS

- Raised lumps or rashes on the skin which may break open
- Itchy skin
- Patches of skin discolouration
- Enlarged lymph nodes
- Hair loss



PSYCHOLOGICAL EFFECTS

- Anxiety related to diagnosis and treatment
- Depression due to emotional and physical burden
- Fear of recurrence or progression
- Body image concerns
- Social isolation
- Loss of self-esteem



Key Stats

- Cutaneous lymphomas are rare, accounting for approximately 5% of all NHL, and primarily affect adults over the age of 50
- The majority (approximately 75%) of all cutaneous lymphomas are CTCLs

Treatment Challenges

- In most cases optimal management requires a multidisciplinary treatment approach including dermatology, radiation therapy and systemic treatment
- Diagnosis can be challenging due to overlapping symptoms of other non-malignant skin conditions
- Treatment commonly includes radiation or skin directed therapies. Chemoimmunotherapy may be used for more advanced cases
- While CTCLs are considered incurable most respond to treatment and long-term remissions are possible
- Due to higher rates of recurrence, many patients require multiple lines of treatment throughout their lives

Clinical Trials

- [Database link](#)

Last update

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