



Portsmouth Regional Hospital Cancer Care Center

Lymphoma Outcomes: Assessment of Evaluation and Treatment Plan Summary by Dr. Prashant Shankar

Lymphoma is broadly classified into Hodgkin's and Non Hodgkin Lymphoma (NHL). In 2012, 70,130 new cases of NHL and 18,940 deaths due to this disease are estimated. The incidence of NHL has increased dramatically between 1970 and 1995. Hodgkin's Disease is less common. In 2012, an estimated 9,060 new diagnoses and 1,190 deaths will occur in the U.S.

Both diseases, especially NHL are further sub classified into a variety of subtypes that have different presentations and outcomes. The vast majority are treatable and very often curable as well. The last decade and a half has also seen a number of new therapeutic agents appear as a result of a greater understanding of the pathophysiology and molecular biology of these diseases.

We undertook a review of cases treated at our institution in 2011. In all, 12 cases were diagnosed and treated here with a variety of different pathologic diagnoses. The purpose of the review was to examine how strictly we adhered to the current standards of care. We used the NCCN guidelines, a nationally respected benchmark, in helping us assess our performance.

After a detailed review, we are pleased to note that all 12 cases were worked up and treated in accordance with the highest prevailing standards as detailed in the NCCN guidelines.

As an institution, we have the ability to carry out all the procedures and testing necessary to arrive at a precise diagnosis and stage which is vital to treatment. We also have at our hand, with very few exceptions, the therapeutic agents needed to combat these diseases.