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Context • After the emergence of combination chemotherapy in 1960s, survival of Hodgkin's lymphoma patients has dramatically improved worldwide. We lack studies that document the favorable evolution of survival regarding this disease in Lebanon.

Objective • To compare the overall survival in Hodgkin's lymphoma (HL) over three different decades in Lebanon.

Methods • We retrospectively reviewed the chart of 196 patients diagnosed with HL, treated and followed from 1990 to 2015 in our center.

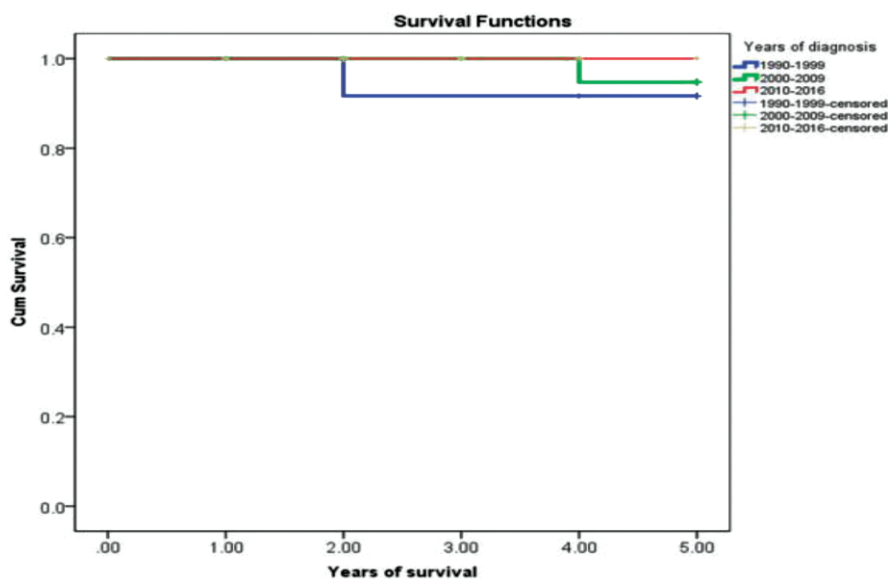
Patients were divided into three groups according to period of analysis: Group A (1990-1999), Group B (2000-2009) and Group C (2010-2015). We studied the characteristics and survival pattern of patients in each group.

Results • The male to female sex ratio was 1.06. The median age at diagnosis was 32.7 years in Group A, 30.4 in B and 33.12 in C ($p = 0.6$).

Results showed variations in the subtypes of the disease according to the following:
• Sclero-nodular HL: 59.5% in Group A, 76.2% in B and 85.4% in C. • Mixed cellularity HL: 21.6% in Group A, 2.4% in B and 8.7% in C ($p = 0.0001$).

Patients presented with localized disease in 58.6%, 73.7% and 56.4% in Groups A, B and C respectively ($p = 0.173$). Complete remission was achieved in 76.5% in Group A, 85.3% in B, and 69.5% in C ($p = 0.007$).

The survival rate at 5 years was 91% in Group A, 94% in Group B and 100% in Group C. Survival rates are represented by the following curves.



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Conclusion • The survival of HL patients has dramatically improved over the last 25 years in Lebanon. These results resemble those achieved in western countries due to the fast adoption of new molecular imaging technologies at diagnosis and follow-up and the rapid approval of new drugs for relapse in the Lebanese market.

Keywords: Hodgkin's lymphoma; survival; period analysis; complete remission