# Lymphomas in the Spleen

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# Outline

- Normal histology of the spleen
- Lymphomas in the spleen:
  - -Splenic marginal zone lymphoma (0.9% of B cell lymphomas)
  - -Hepatosplenic T cell lymphoma (1.4% of T cell lymphomas)

-Splenic B cell lymphoma/leukemia, unclassifiable (provisional entity)

-Other lymphomas (not covered here)

Case studies

# NORMAL HISTOLOGY OF THE SPLEEN

# **Gross Anatomy**

Normal weight 150 g, SD 25 g

Hilus, where it is penetrated by vessels and nerves which follow the extensive branching network of fibrous trabeculae.

Accessory spleens occur in about 10 percent of individuals

Following traumatic rupture, small nodules of splenic tissue may grow on the peritoneal surface as implants (splenosis)

# Normal spleen



# White Pulp

Comprises the lymphoid compartment of the spleen and consists of both follicular B-cellrich areas as well as T-cell-rich periarteriolar lymphoid sheaths.





# Primary and Secondary B-Cell Follicles

### MARGINAL ZONE

 Surrounds the primary follicle and the mantle zone of secondary follicles

 Consists of a corona of medium-sized lymphoid cells with prominent pale cytoplasm



### Spleen: Periarteriolar area The T cells predominate in the periarteriolar lymphoid sheath (labeled red with Leu-22/ CD43). The follicles, which tend to occur at arterial branch points, are labeled blue (L26/CD20).



# Sinusoids

 Are lined by tapered endothelial cells separated by slit-like spaces and surrounded by distinctive ring fibers and bridging fibers

 Stain endothelial markers (FVIII)





PAS stain highlights the distinctive ring fibers and bridging fibers

# Splenic macrophages

Macrophages are preferentially located in the marginal zone and red pulp cords of the spleen (labeled brown with KP-1/CD68).



Splenic Marginal Zone Lymphoma

## **SMZL:** Definition

### B-cell neoplasm

- Small lymphocytes that surround and replace the splenic white pulp germinal centers, efface the follicle mantle and merge with a peripheral (marginal) zone of larger cells including scattered transformed blasts
- Both small and larger cells infiltrate the red pulp
- Hilar lymph nodes and BM are often involved
- Peripheral blood: may show villous lymphocytes
- May account for most cases of otherwise unclassifiable chronic lymphoid leukemias that are CD5(-)
- Most patients >50 y/o, F=M





Spleen: white pulp expansion with red pulp infiltration

### SMZL: Morphology-Spleen





White pulp/central zone: small round lymphocytes, surrounds, or, more commonly replaces reactive germinal centers with effacement of the normal follicle mantle.

White pulp/peripheral zone: small to medium-sized cells with more dispersed chromatin and abundant pale cytoplasm resemble marginal zone cells and are interspersed with transformed blasts.

Red pulp: always infiltrated, small nodules of larger cells and sheets of the small lymphocytes, which often invade sinuses

#### SMZL: Morphology-Hilar LN



- Sinuses are dilated
- Lymphoma surrounds and replaces germinal centers



### SMZL, splenic hilar lymph node



#### SMZL, bone marrow involvement

- Nodular interstitial infiltrate, cytologically similar to that in the lymph nodes.
- Occasionally neoplastic cells surround reactive follicles, but this is not a consistent finding

#### SMZL, villous lymphocytes in PB



When present, usually but not always, have short polar villi

Some may appear plasmacytoid

SMZL: Morphology-DDX

- Other small B-cell lymphoma/leukemias: CLL, HCL, MCL, FL, LPL
- Nodular pattern on BM excludes HCL, but BM morphology may not be sufficient to distinguish from others
- PB villous lymphocytes are helpful
- Flow cytometry of PB or BM very helpful

### SMZL: Immunophenotype

- Positive: sIgM, sIgD, CD20, CD79a
- Negative: CD5, CD10, CD23, CD43, cyclin D1, CD103

### SMZL: Genetics-Antigen Receptor Genes

- IgH and Ig light chain genes are rearranged
- Most cases have somatic mutation
- Intraclonal variation: ongoing mutations

### **SMZL:** Genetics-Cytogenetics

- Allelic loss of 7q21-32: 40% of cases. Dysregulation of *CDK6* was reported.
- ➢ No BCL2 rearrangement. No t(14;18).
- No BCL1 rearrangement. No t(11;14).
- Trisomy 3 and t(11;18), common in MALT, are uncommon in SMZL. Trisomy 3 reported in 17 cases; no t(11;18) confirmed cases

# Hepatosplenic T-cell Lymphoma

# Hepatosplenic T-cell Lymphoma

- Extranodal and systemic lymphoma usually of cytotoxic T-cells of the γδ type
- Marked sinusoidal infiltration seen in the spleen, liver and bone marrow
- Patients present with marked hepatosplenomegaly but no lymphadenopathy
- Bone marrow almost always involved
- More common in immunosuppressed patients





Spleen, 59y/o woman with fatigue.



Diffuse infiltration in sinusoids of red pulp

# Hepatosplenic T-cell Lymphoma

Immunophenotype

- <u>CD3+, CD4-, CD8-, CD5-</u>
- $-TCR\delta 1+$ , TCRa $\beta$ -
- Positive for cytotoxic protein TIA-1

# Genetics

- $-TCR \gamma$  gene rearrangement
- Isochromsome 7q in all cases studied
- Sometimes other abnormalities such as trisomy 8

# Hepatosplenic T-cell Lymphoma



#### Hepatosplenic T-cell Lymphoma Bone marrow Flow Cytometry



# Hepatosplenic T-cell Lymphoma





Trisomy 8: Red chromosome 8 centromere

Isochromosome 7: Green: chromosome 7 Centromere Red: 7q3.1



Clonal V-delta-1-J-delta-1 rearrangement (Panel B, lane 1)

# Prognosis

Variable

Some pts respond well to therapy and others die of disseminated disease despite aggressive therapy

# Splenic B cell lymphoma/leukemia, unclassifiable

### Splenic B cell lymphoma/leukemia, unclassifiable

- Small B-cell clonal lymphoproliferations involving the spleen, but which do not fall into any of the other types of B-cell lymphoid neoplasms recognized in the WHO classification.
- Two subtypes:
  - Splenic diffuse red pulp small B-cell lymphoma
  - Hairy cell leukaemia-variant (HCL-v)

### Splenic diffuse red pulp small B-cell lymphoma

Diffuse pattern of involvement of the red pulp, characteristic intrasinusoidal aggregates

In contrast to SMZL, the tumour shows an <u>absence of follicular replacement, biphasic</u> <u>cytology or marginal zone infiltration</u>. The neoplastic infiltrate is composed of a <u>monomorphous population of small to medium-</u> <u>sized lymphocytes</u>, with round and regular nuclei
#### Hairy cell leukaemia-variant (HCL-v)

- Cases of B chronic lymphoproliferative disorders that resemble classic HCL but exhibit variant features (i.e. leukocytosis, presence of monocytes, cells with prominent nucleoli, cells with blastic or convoluted nuclei, and/or absence of circumferential shaggy (hairy contours)
- Variant immunophenotype (i.e. absence of CD25, annexin-1, or TRAP)

# Case 1: patient CG

30 y/o male, PMHx of liver disease of unknown etiology and hemolytic anemia

# Peripheral smear

- Macrocytic anemia, severe
- Leukopenia, mild
- Thrombocytopenia, mild



# PERIPHERAL HEMOGRAM

RBC HGB HCT MCV MCH MCHC RDW RETIC% PLT WBC **BANDS/SEGS LYMPHOCYTES** MONOCYTES **EOSINOPHILS** BASOPHILS

1.42 M/uL 5.8 g/dL 16.6 % 117 fL 40.5 pg 34.7 g/dL 17.2 % 12.2 % 136 K/uL 4.4 K/UL 64 % 26 % 7 % 0 % 0 %

#### Aspirate smear





Immature cells

# Bone Marrow core biopsy





# BM flow Data

T-cells: 25%
- 20% abnormal

 (+) CD3
 (-) CD5
 (+) CD7
 (-) CD4
 (+) CD56
 (-) CD8

- 5% normal









#### CD79/B-cell marker





TdT



# Liver biopsy





#### Hepatosplenic T cell lymphoma

(with significant autoimmune hemolysis)

# Case 2: patient VC

#### **Clinical History**

A 42 year-old Hispanic man with a history of hemophagocytis (diagnosed with bone marrow), responded to therapy, now with recurrent hemophagocytosis and splenomegaly.

Splenectomy was performed (2,050 gm)

# Spleen:H&E, 10x



### Spleen:H&E, 40x







# Spleen:CD4, 40x



# Spleen:CD8, 40x



# Spleen:CD30, 40x



### Spleen: ALK-1, 40x





### Peripheral T cell lymphoma, NOS

# Case 3: patient JB

#### **Bone Marrow Case**

49 year old white male with abdominal distension x 6 months, found to have splenomegaly, and pancytopenia. No lymphadenopathy is noted.

 WBC=2.6, Hgb=5.5, Plt=16K, MCV=98.6, Retic 2.1% Lymph 68%, NRBC 3

### Peripheral Blood Smear



### Bone Marrow Biopsy



### Bone Marrow Biopsy



### Bone Marrow Biopsy



# Flow Cytometry Study



### Flow Cytometry Study












# Diagnosis

Flow cytometry :

Lymphocytic subpopulation pos for CD19, CD20, <u>CD22, CD11c, CD25, CD103</u>, FMC7, Lambda light-chain restriction

- (strong intensity of CD22, CD11c)
- DX: hairy cell leukemia
- Tests not performed:
  - Tartrate resistant acid phosphotase (TRAP)
  - Reticulin stain
  - EM

#### Hairy Cell Leukemia Bone marrow-Reticulin stain





## Hairy Cell Leukemia

#### **TRAP** stain



### Hairy Cell Leukemia: scanning EM



#### **Hairy Cell Leukemia: transmission EM**

Ribosome lamellar complexes: double tubule structures composed of protein, unknown role in pathogenesis of HCL



### Hairy Cell Leukemia Morphology in Spleen, Liver, Lymph Node

-Spleen: Infiltrate red pulp cord White pulp atrophic RBC lakes -Liver: sinusoidal and portal infiltrates -LN: paracortical, sparing of follicles

### Hairy Cell Leukemia





#### Hairy Cell Leukemia

#### Spleen: red cell lakes



### Hairy Cell Leukemia: Spleen



### Hairy Cell Leukemia: Liver

