Human leukocyte antigen distribution in German Caucasians with advanced Ewing's sarcoma.

Abstract:

Risk stratification criteria for patients with Ewing's sarcoma family of tumors (ESFT) are still limited. We hypothesized divergent human leukocyte antigen (HLA) patterns in ESFT patients and compared HLA-A, -B and -DR phenotype frequencies of patients with advanced ESFT with those of healthy controls. HLA types of all German Caucasian patients with advanced ESFT and available HLA-A, -B and -DR data registered in the European Group for Blood and Marrow Transplantation, Paediatric Registry for Stem Cell Transplantation and the MetaEICESS data bases (study group, n=30) were retrospectively compared with HLA types of healthy German stem cell donors (control group, n=8 862 for single HLA frequencies and n=8 839 for allele combinations). Study group patients had been immuno-typed due to eligibility for allogeneic stem cell transplantation for high risk of treatment failure, and thus constituted a selected subgroup of ESFT patients. After Bonferroni correction for multiple testing (PC), phenotype frequencies of HLA-A24 remained significantly higher in the study group compared to controls (PC<0.05).
Furthermore, several HLA combinations were significantly more frequent in the study group compared to controls (all PC<0.05). We report an increased incidence of circumscribed HLA patterns in German Caucasians with advanced ESFT. The possible clinical significance of this observation has to be re-assessed in prospective trials comprising larger ESFT patient numbers of all risk groups.

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