

**LOW GRADE PRIMARY DIGESTIVE LYMPHOMAS: ANATOMOCLINICAL STUDY  
AND THERAPEUTIC RESULTS: ABOUT 47 CASES**

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**Background:** To report anatomo-clinical features and prognostic factors of primary digestive low grade non-hodgkin's lymphoma (LGPD) in our region.

**Methods:** We carried out a retrospective analysis of 47 consecutive patients who presented to our department of medical oncology with histopathological diagnosis of LGPD between 1994 and 2010.

**Result:** The median age was 55 years (range 26-84) and sex ratio 1.76. Tumor sites were gastric (78.8%), intestinal (10.6%) and gastrointestinal (10.6%). Common symptoms included abdominal pain (89.4%), vomiting (42.6%) and gastrointestinal bleeding (21.3%). Performance status (PS) < 2 was seen in 80.2% of patients. Endoscopic biopsy confirmation rate reached 87.2% when biopsies were repeated. Occidental MALT lymphoma accounts for 80.9% of cases. Helicobacter pylori detection rate was 53.2%. About 55.3% of cases were stage IE. 32 patients had chemotherapy (before or without surgery) with an objective response rate of 55.3%. Only 36.2% of patients had surgery ( 6 before chemotherapy, 6 for residual tumor after chemotherapy and 5 as exclusive treatment) and 23 patients had Helicobacter pylori eradication therapy.

The five-year overall survival (OS) was 75%. The median of follow-up was 94 months. A complete remission was obtained in 30 cases, whereas 15 patients died and 2 were lost of view.

**Conclusion:** Eradication therapy may be offered as an initial treatment option in patients with low- grade gastric lymphomas.

Recent progress in chemotherapy has allowed good therapeutic results with a conservative approach. Surgery may be performed in case of emergency or for residual lesions after medical treatment.