# Hyperviscosity I.

Common hematological emergency, defined as increase in whole blood viscosity as a result of an increase in:

- Red cells
- White cells
- Plasmatic components, (Ig)

Other additional conditions:

- temperature,
- hydratation status,
- size of cell (CLL vs. AML)

# Hyperviscosity II.

Hyperviscosity cause tissue hypoperfusion and consequent complications and clinical features coming from multiple organ hypoxemia:

- Central nervous system disturbancies
- Renal impairment
- Respiration insuficiency
- Myocardial infarction

Etc....

Clinicaly relevat hyperviscosity syndrom must be managed inpatient settigns and urgent treatment in specialised hematological centre is warranted.

#### **Red cells:**

Polycythaemia vera - increased red cell volume, Hb > 180 gr/l.

#### **Clinical features:**

lethargy, headache, hypertension, arterial tromboses (MI, visual loss – central retinal artery occlusion).

#### Emergency treatment: = Isovolaemic venesection.

removal of 500mL blood volume from large vein with simultaneous replacement into another vein of 500mL 0,9% saline.

If present or not emergent – Erytrocytaferesis

On cell separator machine until syndrom resolves or until hematocrit decrease bellow 45%

# White cells = Hyperleukocytosis

Acute leukemia – AML, ALL Chronic leukemia – CML, CLL

Typicaly high blast cell numbers circulating in peripheral blood at presentation/diagnosis.

Leukocytes are sludging in capillaries causing organ damage

More common in AML and blast crises of CML (size of blasts!)

Tumor burden... WBC >  $50-100 \times 10^{9}/L$ 

Pulmonary haemorhage and haemoptysis may occur

# White cells = Hyperleukocytosis

**Clinical features:** 

- pulmonary leucostasis caugh, dyspnoe, respiratory distress syndrom, tachypnoea, hypoxaemia, diffuse interstitial infiltrate on CRX
   Differentiation from bacterial or fungal pneumoia may be difficult...
- cerebral leucostasis encefalopathy, confusion, decreased conscious level, isolated cranial nerve paresis
- visual loss (arteria centralis retinae hemmorhage/trombosis)
- renal impariment lab, oliguria...

# White cells = Hyperleukocytosis

Emergency treatment:

Anaemia may protect patient from hyperviscosity. Transfusion of RBCs to correct anaemia may initiate leucostasis and worsen the clinical status

Leucapheresis on cell separator machine immediately, ussually 2 hour procedure

Continue leucoapheresis daily until leucostasis syndrom is resolved or until WBC < 50 x 10E9/L

Start chemotherapy as soon as criteria allow.

Leucoaferesis is some kind of emergency and bridge to the chemotherapy.

Dubling time of acute leukemia could be faster then leucoapheresis

# Plasma components - Immunoglobulins

group of diseases characterized by monoclonal proliferation of the cells of B-lymphoid line, secreting immunoglobulins:

Monoclonal protien in plasma **Multiple myeloma -** IgG/IgA paraprotein **Waldenstrom macroglobulinaemia -** IgM

#### **Clinical features:**

- Neurological symptoms: sleepiness, headache, dizziness, coma
- Bleeding: interference of Ig with clotting factors
- Myelomic nefropathy: Accumulation of Bence-Jones proteinuria in renal tubules, hypercalciemia.

# Plasma components - Immunoglobulins

Hyperviscosity usually develop when total protein in blood is >110 gr/L

Emergency treatment = **Plasmapheresis** on cell separator machine with the aim of 1,5-2,0 x blood volume exchange.

Repeating daily until symptoms are resolved or total protein < 110g/L.

After stabilization specific chemotheraphy should be initiated

# **Neutropenic fever**

One of the commonest hemato-oncological emergencies.

#### **Definition:**

- Presence of symptoms or signs of infection in a patient with absolute netrophil count < 0,5 x10<sup>9</sup>/L.
- Fever 1x TT > 38,3 C, 2x in 1 hour 38,0 C
- Neutrophils are the natural barrier against bacterial and fungal agents

# **Neutropenic fever - specialities**

Neutropenia=

- Limited ability to produce inflammatory infiltrate

   infections do not behave as usual:
   no absces but flegmonous infection
- Pneumonia without pneumonia at CRX clinical signs (cough, auscultation, CRP) and no finding on CRX (HRCT)
- Occasionally the fever is the only sign of infekction

#### **Neutropenic sepsis**

Similarly to polytraumas, MI and stroke, speed and accurate management strongly influence the patient survival

Progression of sepsis to acute organ failure directly affects martality:

- cca 15% mortality in sepsis without organ failure
- cca 70% mortality in ≥3 selhávajících orgánů

### **Neutropenic sepsis**

#### **CONTINUUM OF THE INFECTIOUS PROCESS**



#### **1.SIRS = systemic inflammatory response syndrome**



#### 2. SEPSIS = SIRS + presumed / proven infection



#### **3. SEVERE SEPSIS = sepsis +** ≥1 organ failure



#### 4. SEPTIC SHOCK = severe sepsis + hypotension not responding to parenteral volume resucitation



# Patient risc stratification

- Neutropenia.
  - severity of neutropeni:

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(<1x10^9 \dots <0.5x10^9 \dots <0.1x10^9)
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- lenght:

(7.... 30 days)

• Basic diagnose:

(solid tumor....akuce leukemia....HSCT)

• Status of the disease:

(remission....progression)

• ICU patient with multiple invasions a organ failure

Management of severe sepsis:

6 interventions in, first 6 hours from diagnosis

Decrease in mortality in 35%

First of all, patient must be provided by 2 save cannulas

#### 1. Plasma lactate level

Excellent marker of tissue/organ hypoperfussion and hypoxia

Usually increasing earlier then patient becomes hypotensive.

#### 2. Blood sampling for hemoculture

before starting any antibiotic therapy

If any catheter is present, hemoculteres should be drawn from the device as well to exclude catheter infection

#### 3. Start proper parenteral antibiotics

with broad spectrum (antipseudomonal activity!) at the very latest 1 hour from the diagnosis of severe sepsis

Antipseudomonal pennicilin with clavulanic acid (Tazocin) In combination with aminoglycoside (Amikin, Gentamycin)

Alternative – karbapenems

Any restrictive speculation icould be fatal – we start with broad spectrum ATB, waiting for culteres and after defining the exact pathogen, we can deescale ATB.

#### **4. Presence of hypotension** (SBP< 90 mmHg nebo MAP< 65 mmHg)

Urgently start parenteral fluid challange

= 1000 ml of crystalloid or 500ml of colloid solution over 30 minutes

Close monitoring of vital signs

Assess effect: BP, pulse....

#### 5. Hypotension persists after fluid challange

Contact ICU specialist, reserve ICU bed

Central venous catheter, further fluids and CVP (>10 cm H2O)

Start vasopressors (norepinephrin), invasive blood pressure goal = MAP > 65 mmHg

Close monitoring of diuresis

# 6. Persisting lactate level despite of fluid and vasopressor optimalization

Signing high mortality...

Continue with fluid overload to CVP 15-20 (pulmonary edema)

Correct anaemia, Htc more 30%

Start inotropic agents (dobutamin)

# IX. Neinvazivní monitorace - poznámky

#### Pulzní oxymetrie

















