
Study of pediatric stem cell transplantation complications and impact on quality of life

Mohamed Bayoumy Abdel Wahab

Stem cell transplantation is a major advancement in our modern medicine. Stem cell research is going on in many fields. Many patients across the whole world are waiting this new hope. However, this new "magic" solution appears to have expensive costs, and several complications of the procedure affect adversely every aspect of the patient's life. Advances in the future will make this procedure more safe and practical, through, better stem cell banking, better selection of the patients, more available sources of stem cells, easier donation, lower intensity of conditioning regimens, in utero stem cell transplantation, and early recognition and management of complications. We evaluate with great respect the experience of "Mansoura University Children Hospital- stem cell transplantation unit" that initiates and develops this new field in Egypt. Mansoura University was the 15th Egyptian university that perform stem cell transplantation. In general, there was a good results among autologous stem cell recipient that was comparable in many instances with recent published outcomes of international centers. In contrast, high mortalities were observed in allogeneic stem cell recipients in Mansoura, However, the smaller allogeneic group didn't allow a fair evaluation in this context. Complications were recorded in both groups, they were more severe in allogeneic group. Some of known complications were not recorded in both groups, this was related to the recent experience in Mansoura while some complications occurred lately and there was no specific screening for some complications. Assessment of Quality of life is an important indicator to the patient's psychosocial aspects after the procedure. In Mansoura, Stem cell Summary and Conclusion recipients showed variable degree of life satisfaction after stem cell transplantation, while their parents appeared more anxious and stressed after the procedure. We concluded that experience of Mansoura university children Hospital in stem cell transplantation was satisfactory in general. Despite it was costly and in some occasions mortalities and serious morbidities occurred. Yet, it worth's to try to overcome this obstacles and to encourage these valuable efforts.