



ORIGINAL ARTICLE



Survival analysis of hematopoietic stem cell transplantation in children with primary immunodeficiency in Spain[☆]

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KEYWORDS

Primary immunodeficiencies; Hematopoietic stem cell transplantation; Immunosuppression

Abstract

Introduction: Children with primary immunodeficiency have severe life-threatening infections and a higher prevalence of autoimmune problems, allergy and lymphoproliferative disorders. Allogenic hematopoietic stem cell transplantation has been the only potentially curative option. **Patients and methods:** Patients with primary immunodeficiency underwent allogenic stem cell transplantation in the period 1985–2011, and registered in the Spanish Working Party for Bone Marrow Transplantation in Children.

Results: One hundred and fifty-nine patients underwent 173 allogenic stem cell transplants, of whom 97 had severe combined immunodeficiency, 30 with immune dysregulation disorders, 25 Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome, and 21 phagocyte disorders.

The median patient age at diagnosis was 6 months (range: 17 days–168 months) and the median patient age at transplant was 12 months (range: 1–189 months).

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The donors were 30 (19%) identical siblings, 40 (25%) alternative family donors, and 89 (56%) unrelated donors. The source of stem cells was bone marrow in 68 (43%), cord blood in 52 (33%), and peripheral blood in 39 (24%).

Ninety-eight (61.6%) patients are alive and 57 (35.9%) died. Event-free survival at 10 years was 63%, with 90% for children transplanted from identical siblings, 36% for those transplanted from alternative family donors, and 66% for those transplanted from unrelated donors.

Conclusions: The best results have been obtained with identical siblings, but other options may be considered.

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PALABRAS CLAVE

Inmunodeficiencias primarias;
Trasplante alogénico de progenitores hematopoyéticos;
Inmunosupresión

Análisis de la supervivencia de los niños con inmunodeficiencias primarias que han recibido un trasplante de progenitores hematopoyéticos en España

Resumen

Introducción: Los niños afectados de inmunodeficiencias primarias presentan infecciones graves y mayor prevalencia de manifestaciones autoinmunitarias, alergias y enfermedad linfoproliferativa. El trasplante alogénico de precursores hematopoyéticos ha sido el único tratamiento curativo durante décadas.

Pacientes y métodos: Pacientes con inmunodeficiencias primarias que recibieron trasplante alogénico de precursores hematopoyéticos desde 1985 hasta 2011, recogidos en el Registro Nacional del Grupo Español para Trasplante de Médula Ósea en Niños.

Resultados: Ciento cincuenta y nueve niños recibieron un total de 173 trasplantes, 97 por inmunodeficiencia combinada grave, 30 por enfermedades de regulación inmunitaria, 25 por síndrome de Wiskott-Aldrich y 21 por defectos de número y/o función de los fagocitos.

La mediana de edad al diagnóstico fue de 6 meses (17 días-168 meses) y de 12 meses (1 mes-189 meses) al trasplante.

Los donantes fueron hermano HLA idéntico en 30 (19%), donante familiar alternativo en 40 (25%) y donante no emparentado en 89 (56%). La fuente de progenitores fue médula ósea en 68 (43%), sangre de cordón umbilical en 52 (33%) y sangre periférica en 39 (24%).

Permanecen vivos 98 niños (61.6%), 57 (35.9%) fallecieron. La supervivencia libre de enfermedad a los 10 años fue del 63, el 90% para los pacientes transplantados de hermano HLA idéntico, el 36% para los transplantados de un donante familiar alternativo y el 66% para los transplantados de donante no emparentado.

Conclusiones: Los mejores resultados se obtienen con un hermano HLA idéntico, cuando no se dispone de este, otros donantes deben ser considerados.

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Introduction

Primary immunodeficiencies (PIDs) are a heterogeneous group of over 200 congenital diseases caused by quantitative or functional defects of different mechanisms involved in the immune response. They are characterised by a poor response to infectious agents, leading to recurrent infection and a greater prevalence of autoimmune manifestations, allergies, and lymphoproliferative disorders.¹

Around 60% of these diseases are diagnosed during childhood.¹

The current classification of the International Union of Immunology Societies defines 8 groups of PIDs: combined T- and B-cell immunodeficiencies; predominantly antibody deficiencies; diseases of immune dysregulation; defects of phagocyte number, function, or both; defects

in innate immunity; complement disorders; autoinflammatory disorders; and other well-defined immunodeficiency syndromes.^{1,2}

The clinical manifestations of PIDs are broad in scope, and the following are the main warning signs that an immunodeficiency should be suspected: recurrent infections (more than 8 new episodes of otitis media within a year; more than 2 pneumonias confirmed radiologically within a year; more than 2 episodes of sinusitis within a year; more than 2 deep-tissue infections or infections in unusual locations within a year; recurrent deep skin infections or abscesses; infection by unusual or opportunistic organisms; 2 or more episodes of meningitis or severe infection); failure to gain weight or grow normally; recurrent autoimmune phenomena; thrush in mouth or fungal infection of the skin in patients older than one year; dysmorphic features related

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