How do we define a positive PET/CT for escalation of therapy is an issue not yet resolved. Therefore we performed a retrospective study and evaluated a functional dynamic scoring model to elucidate the significance of post-induction interim F¹⁸DG-PET/CT scanning in patients with Hodgkin Lymphoma.

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The MRU definition, as the time goes by.



Gallamini A. et al ,2009 Leukemia & Lymphoma

Parameter	Data	Percent
Gender (M/F), number=96	49/47	51% / 49%
Median age, years (range)	30 (17-57)	
B symptoms, yes/no, number	43 / 53	45% / 55%
Bulky mediastinal mass, n	10	10%
Early disease (Ia, IIa)	2/31	34%
Advanced disease Ann Arbor Stage - IB,IIB, III, IV For these patients International prognostic score was applied	63 1/18/19/25	66% -
Initial chemotherapy regimen ABVD	33	34%
Ann Arbor Stage (I,II) (III, IV)	25/8	76% / 24%
Radiation Therapy	22	67%
BEACOPP	41	43%
Ann Arbor Stage (I,II) (III, IV)	24/17	59% / 41%
Radiation Therapy	15	36%
Escalated BEACOPP	22	23%
Ann Arbor Stage (I,II) (III, IV)	3/19	14% / 86%
Radiation Therapy	2	9%

96 Patients assessed according to static visual score

Escalated BEACOPP N=22 Interim PET/CT		Standard BEACOPP N=41 Interim PET/CT		ABVD N=33 Interim PET/CT	
5 CCR median: 50 months (36-64) 1 PPD	15 CCR median: 70 months (41-89) 1 PPD	9 CCR 7 following dose escalation median: 70 months (47-73) 2 PPD despite dose escalation	30 CCR median: 61 months (28-93)	5 CCR median: 54 months (43-79) 2 PPD (1 PPD despite dose escalation)	23 CCR median: 55 months (25-84) 1 PPD 2 relapses

Fig. 1a

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Interim PET/CT dynamic visual score for HD patients

0- No evidence of residual uptake.

- 1- Single site uptake.
- 2- More than one residual site with markedly decreased intensity compared to baseline in those sites.
- 3- No change in number of sites with pathologic uptake; however, reduced intensity of uptake in those sites compared to baseline.
- 4- No change in number of sites or intensity or appearance of new sites of uptake.

PET scoring criteria for a single site of HL at diagnosis

In case of a single focus of FDG uptake on the baseline PET/CT study, the response on the interim study will be defined as follows:

<u>Score 0</u> – Negative PET (disappearance of uptake in the single site)

<u>Score 1a</u> – Residual uptake in a single site, reduced in area and intensity, compared to normal mediastinal or liver blood pool uptake)

<u>Score 3a</u> – Residual uptake in a single site, equal to or higher than uptake in normal mediastinal or liver blood pool uptake (the reference organ will be the hottest of these two), with or without change in uptake area.

<u>Score 4a</u> – No change in intensity or increase in intensity and area of FDG uptake in a single site, or the appearance of new foci of abnormal FDG uptake consistent with disease progression.

Table 3: EVALUATION OF DIFFERENT DYNAMIC SCORE CUT-OFF POINTS FOR DEFINITION OF NEGATIVE AND POSITIVE INTERIM FDG-PET/CT

96 patients	Negative PV %	Positive PV%	Specificity %	Sensitivity%	Accuracy%
	and (95%	and (95%	and (95%	and (95%	and (95%
	confidence	confidence	confidence	confidence	confidence
	interval)	interval)	interval)	interval)	interval)
Score 0	94%	21%	78%	56%	76%
versus 1-4	(89-99)	(4.6-37)	(69-70)	(23-88)	(67.4-84)
Score 0-1	93%	27%	91%	33%	85%
versus 2-4	(87-98)	(1-53)	(85-97)	(2-64)	(78-92)
Score 0-2	93%	50%	96%	33%	91%
versus 3,4	(88-98)	(10-90)	(93-100)	(2-64)	(85-96)

STATIC	SCORE	DYNAMIC VISUAL SCORE	F ¹⁸ FDG UPTAKE >	F ¹⁸ FDG UPTAKE >
VISUAL SCORE		(CURRENT STUDY)	MEDIASTINAL BLOOD	LIVER BLOOD
			POOL	POOL
No abnormal	0	No abnormal F ¹⁸ FDG uptake	No abnormal F ¹⁸ FDG uptake	No abnormal F ¹⁸ FDG
F ¹⁸ FDG uptake				uptake
	1	A single residual focus of	Residual mass ≥2cm:	Residual mass ≥2cm:
		abnormal F ¹⁸ FDG uptake.	Lesion uptake < mediastinum	Lesion uptake < liver
		If only a single site on baseline: a		
		markedly decreased intensity		
		compared to baseline.		
	2	More than one site of residual	Residual mass ≥2cm:	Residual mass ≥2cm:
		uptake but with a marked decrease	Lesion uptake = mediastinum	Lesion uptake = liver
		in number of disease sites		
		compared to baseline.		

Static visual	Score	Dynamic Visual Score	F ¹⁸ FDG uptake >mediastinal	F ¹⁸ FDG uptake > liver blood
score			blood pool	pool as comparator
Any focus of	3	Reduced intensity of	Residual mass ≥2cm:	Residual mass ≥2cm:
abnormal		uptake with no change in	moderately increased uptake	lesion uptake moderately increased
F ¹⁸ FDG uptake		their number compared to	compared with mediastinum OR	compared with liver OR
(not related to		baseline	Residual mass <2cm: any focus	Residual mass <2cm: any focus of
physiologic or			of abnormal F ¹⁸ FDG uptake	abnormal F ¹⁸ FDG uptake
benign tracer	4	No change in both	Residual mass ≥2cm:	Residual mass≥2cm:
uptake).		number and intensity of	markedly increased uptake	Lesion uptake markedly increased
		sites or the appearance of	compared with mediastinum OR	compared with liver OR
		new sites of disease.	Residual mass <2cm:	Residual mass <2cm:
			any focus of abnormal F ¹⁸ FDG	any focus of abnormal F ¹⁸ FDG
			uptake (not related to physiologic or	uptake (not related to physiologic
			benign uptake).	or benign uptake).

	Negative PV	Positive PV	Specificity	Sensitivity	Accuracy
Static visual score					
All patients (96)	(68/72) 94%	(5/24) 21%	(68-87) 78%*	(5/9) 55%	(73-96) 76%
[®] Modified cohort (n=88)	(68/72) 94%	(5/16) 31%	(68.79) 86%#	(5/9) 55%	(73/88) 83%
Static score by CIS	(70-75) 93%	(4/21) 19%	(70/87) 80%**	(4/9) 44%	(74/96) 77%*
[®] Modified cohort	(69/74) 93%	(4/14) 28%	69/79) 82%##	(4/9) 44%	(73/88) 83%
Static score liver blood pool	(74/80) 92%	(3/16) 19%	(74/87) 85%	(3/9) 33%	(77/96) 80%**
[®] Modified cohort (n=88)	(70/76) 92%	(3/12) 25%	(70/79) 88%	(3/9) 33%	(73/88) 83%
Dynamic visual score					
All patients (96)	(84/90) 93%	(3/6) 50%	(84/87) 96%	(3/9) 33%	(87/96) 91%

When compared to the dynamic visual score: ***p <0.0001**, **** p = 0.001**, **@ p <0.01**, **#**p<0.03, **##**p<0.05

	Negative PV	Positive PV	Specificity	Sensitivity	Accuracy
Static visual score All patients (96)	(68/72) 94%	(5/24) 21%	(68-87) 78%*	(5/9) 55%	(73-96) 76%
BEACOPP (41)	(30/30) 100%	(2/11) 18%	(30/39) 77%#	2/2	
Escalated BEACOPP (22)	(15/16) 94%	(1/6) 17%	(15/20) 75%	1/2	
Liver blood pool All patients (96)	(74/80) 92%	(3/16) 19%	(74/87) 85%	(3/9) 33%	(77/96) 80%**
BEACOPP (41)	(35/36) 97%	(1/5) 20%	(35/39) 90%	1/2	
Escalated BEACOPP (22)	(16/18) 89%	(0/4) 0%	(16/20) 80%	0/2	
All patients (96) Dynamic visual score	(84/90) 93%	(3/6) 50%	(84/87) 96%	(3/9) 33%	(87/96) 91%
BEACOPP (41)	(38/38) 100%	(2/3) 66%	(38/39) 97%#	2/2	
Escalated BEACOPP (22)	(19/21) 90%	(0/1) 17%	(19/20) 95%	0/2	

When compared to the dynamic visual score: *p < 0.0001, **p = 0.001, @ p < 0.01,

♣ p = 0.001, ♣♣ p = 0.006, # p<0.03, ##p<0.05



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Fig. 2



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Fig. 3



Fig. 4

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CONCLUSIONS

- Baseline PET/CT should be mandatory in any case when interim PET/CT is planned to be used for further therapeutic decision
- Number of residual disease sites is an important part of evaluation
- Probably, a singe residual site following resolution of other sites of disease should not be considered as requiring augmentation of therapy
- Dynamic scoring model should be independently evaluated in other cohorts of patients