

## **LYMPHOMA OF THE THYROID GLAND, DIAGNOSTICS, TREATMENT AND SURVIVAL**

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Lymphoma of the thyroid is a very rare condition which occurs in about 2% of all lymphomas. It is usually detected in autoimmune Hashimoto thyroiditis. The aim of the paper is to give a literature review of a diagnostics, therapy, follow up and survival of patients with malignant thyroid lymphoma. Materials: In the paper 10 patients were presented: 3 men and 7 women with a mean age of 54.7 years. Diagnostics was done according to the clinical image: there was a diffuse, nodular and partially substernum enlargement of a thyroid; with difficulties in breathing; present antibodies to Tg and/or TPO, increased TSH; ultrasonographical signs of hypoechogenity; scintigraphy showed large hypofunctioning and nonfunctioning areas and cytology gave signs of autoimmune thyroiditis and suspected malignant lymphoma. In 50% of patients the diagnosis was based on the PH verification and histochemical classification. Therapy: a surgery which should be as radical as possible, and according to the protocol it should be a total thyroidectomy, radiotherapy and chemotherapy. Patients had survival from 3 to 30 months, depending on frequency of their visit, promptness of diagnostics and therapy. Conclusion: only a reasonable, prompt diagnostics with a precise therapy according to the protocol can influence a better survival and quality of life of patients with lymphoma.

**Key words:** thyroid lymphoma, diagnostics, therapy