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Molecular Pathogenesis and Management of Anaplastic Large Cell Lymphoma

Guest Editor:

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Message from the Guest Editor

Dear colleagues,

Anaplastic large cell lymphoma (ALCL) includes distinct subgroups of peripheral mature T-cell lymphomas defined by their strong expression of the CD30 antigen and commonly composed of large pleomorphic cells. The defined entities in the most recent 2017 World Health Organization classification of hematopoietic and lymphoid tissues include systemic ALK-positive (ALK+) and ALK-negative (ALK-) ALCL, cutaneous ALCL, and breast implant-associated ALCL. Each entity is defined based on distinct genetic aberrations, epidemiological characteristics, clinical presentations, and prognosis. The presence of an *ALK* rearrangement resulting in the aberrant expression of the ALK fusion oncoprotein is a genetically defining aberration for ALK+ ALCL, which more frequently affects children and young adults and has better prognosis compared to ALK- ALCL. Notably, within the ALK- ALCL group, subsets with mutually exclusive cytogenetic alterations have been identified (TP63r+, IRF4/DUSP22r+, and triple-negative ALCL) with prognostic implications.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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