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Abstracts

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UNIVERSITY OF AVEIRO'S STANDARDISED VOICE CASE HISTORY FORM

Maria João A. P. Ferreira^{1,a}, Luis M. T. Jesus^{2,3,b}, Pedro Sá-Couto^{4,5,c}, Helena Vilarinho^{3,6,d}

¹*Centro Hospitalar do Médio Ave. Vila Nova de Famalicão, Portugal*

²*Institute of Electronics and Informatics Engineering of Aveiro. Universidade de Aveiro. Aveiro, Portugal*

³*Escola Superior de Saúde. Universidade de Aveiro. Aveiro, Portugal*

⁴*Center for Research and Development in Mathematics and Applications. Universidade de Aveiro. Aveiro, Portugal*

⁵*Departamento de Matemática. Universidade de Aveiro. Aveiro, Portugal*

⁶*Hospital S. João. Porto, Portugal*

Introduction: Speech and Language Therapists (SLTs) use individual and diverse forms to register the clinical history of vocal pathologies, which hinders cross-comparisons of patients' data.

Objective: Thus, this study describes the development and validation of a voice case history form for the Portuguese population.

Methods: The instrument development was informed by an extensive literature review of protocols used by SLTs, and from results of an expert panel and a pilot study. A sample of 52 outpatients from the Otolaryngology Service of S. João Hospital, Porto, Portugal, was recruited. Their case history data was collected using the protocol.

Results: A factorial analysis was conducted to explore the number of dimensions underlying the 18 items of the instrument. Then internal consistency was measured using Cronbach's alpha. Finally the impact of socio-demographic, occupational and diagnosis (sample characteristics) on the resulting factors was explored using analysis of variance. Results revealed two factors that accounted for 41% of the variance: Factor I – Severity of the voice disorder (5 items); Factor II – occupational voice demands (3 items). Cronbach's alphas for these two factors were 0.847 and 0.650, respectively, which indicated good to high internal consistency values. Analysis of variance results showed, for Factor I no significant differences, and for Factor II significant differences for occupation ($p=0.013$) and education level ($p<0.001$).

Conclusions: The analysis of the two factors contributes for an objective and standardised voice case history, which facilitates comparisons across patients and clinical settings. These will help establishing priorities for interventions and enhance evidence based practice in speech and language therapy.

Descriptors: Voice Disorders; Case History Form; Speech and Language Therapy; Factorial Analysis; Internal Consistency.

^a mariajoao.ferreira@chma.min-saude.pt

^b lmtj@ua.pt

^c p.sa.couto@ua.pt

^d f2385@ua.pt

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IMPACT OF IONIZING RADIATION ON LYMPHOMA CELL LINE -CELL DEATH, BAX/BCL-2, P53 EXPRESSION

Fernando Mendes^{1,2,3,a}, Tiago Sales^{1,4,b}, Susann Schugk^{1,5,c}, Ana Cristina Gonçalves^{3,6,d}, Ana Bela Sarmento^{3,6,e}, Maria Filomena Botelho^{3,7,f}, Manuel Santos Rosa^{7,8,g}

¹*Unidade de Biofísica. Faculdade de Medicina. Instituto de Imagem Biomédica e Ciências da Vida. Faculdade de Medicina. Universidade de Coimbra. Coimbra, Portugal*

²*Escola Superior de Tecnologia da Saúde de Coimbra. Instituto Politécnico de Coimbra. Coimbra, Portugal*

³*Centro de Investigação em Meio Ambiente, Genética e Oncobiologia. Faculdade de Medicina. Universidade de Coimbra. Coimbra, Portugal*

⁴*Faculdade de Ciências e Tecnologia. Universidade de Coimbra. Coimbra, Portugal*

⁵*Sahlgrenska Academy. University of Gothenburg. Gothenburg, Sweden*

⁶*Biologia Molecular Aplicada e Clínica Universitária de Hematologia. Faculdade de Medicina. Universidade de Coimbra. Coimbra, Portugal*

⁷*Instituto de Imunologia. Faculdade de Medicina. Universidade de Coimbra. Coimbra, Portugal*

Introduction: Diffuse Large B-cell Lymphoma (DLBCL) is a diffuse proliferation of large neoplastic B lymphoid cells with a nuclear size equal to or exceeding the normal macrophage nuclei, representing more or less 25% to 30% of the cases. Radiotherapy (RT) alone or, more frequently, given in association with surgery and medical treatments is one option for DLBCL treatment.

Objective: Our aim was to evaluate the response of DLBCL after X radiation (RX) exposure

Methods: The assays were performed on FARAGE cells exposed to RX. Cell survival was studied by clonogenic assay. BAX/BCL-2 and cell death were evaluated by flow cytometry, P53 expression by Western-Blot, after an incubation period of 48 hours.

Results: Our results suggest that RX induces viability and proliferation decreasing in a dose and time dependent manner. The LD50 calculated for this cell line was 2.2Gy. The majority of cells undergo apoptosis although an increase of necrosis was observed at 60 Gy. We observed an arrestment of cell cycle at G2/M phase. Further, we found greater BAX/BCL-2 ratio in cells submitted to RX. P53 expression increases with radiation doses.

Conclusions: According to our results, RX induces cell death mainly by apoptosis, higher doses as 60Gy present also significant necrosis, arresting cell cycle in G2/M phase mostly. The increase of BAX/BCL2 ratio may indicate activation of intrinsic apoptosis pathway via mitochondria.

Descriptors: Diffuse large B-cell lymphoma; Ionizing radiation, cell death, P53, BAX/BCL-2.

^a fjmendes@estescoimbra.pt

^b tiago_folgado@hotmail.com

^c susann2310@hotmail.com

^d acc.goncalves@gmail.com

^e ana.belasarmento@gmail.com

^f filomena@ibili.uc.pt

^g msrosa@fmed.uc.pt