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Hemoglobin, alkalic phosphatase, and C-reactive protein predict the outcome in patients with liposarcoma

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Introduction: Data on prognostic biomarkers in soft tissue sarcomas are scarce. The objective of the study was to define prognostic markers in patients with a liposarcoma, a subtype of sarcoma derived from adipose tissue.

Methods: We restrospectively reviewed 85 patients with liposarcoma treated at our department from May 1994 to October 2011. Kaplan-Meier curves, uni- and multivariable viariable Cox proportional hazard models and competing risk analysis were performed to evaluate the association between putative biomarkers with disease-specific and overall survival.

Results: A significant association between both alcalic phosphatase (subhazard ratio [SHR] per 1 unit increase: 1.35; 95% CI 1.10-1.65; p=0.005) and C-reactive protein (CRP; SHR per 1 mg/dl increase: 2,57; 95% CI 1.36-4,86; p= 0.004) with disease-specific survival. Haemoglobin (HR per 1 g/dl increase: 065; 95% CI 0.48-0.87; p=0.003) was associated with overall survival. These associations prevailed after multivariable adjustment for AJCC tumor stage.

Conclusion: This study identifies CRP and alkalic phosphatase as novel independent predictors of disease-specific survival in patients with liposarcoma. These biomarkers could be exploited for individual risk estimation and integrated in existing prognostic models for soft tissue sarcoma in future.