

CHANGES OF LYMPHOCYTES SUBSETS AFTER NEOADJUVANT  
CHEMOTHERAPY FOR HEAD AND NECK CANCERS.

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61 patients received a chemotherapy combining bleomycin, etoposide, cis platinum, fluorouracile and ifosfamide prior to radio-surgical treatment. Significant variations were observed between percentages of lymphocytes subsets analyzed by flow cytometry. In proportion of baseline values, CD4 increased of 15%, CD3+ DR- of 10% and CD3+ DR+ of 24%; B cells decreased of 40% and null cells of 26%. Reduction of tumour burden, amplification of T lymphocytes functions with increase of H/S ratio and fall in percentage of null cells seem to be linked. The possible immunosuppressive effect of neoadjuvant chemotherapy appears limited to B cells population.