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Emergencies in Pediatric Oncology

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Every year 165 children and adolescents per million under the age of 19 are diagnosed with cancer. Because of major treatment advances in recent decades, 84% of children with cancer now survive 5 years or more. The early recognition and the appropriate management of emergent cancer- and anticancer therapy-related complications are critical in maintaining and further improving outcomes for children with malignancies. Oncologic emergencies in pediatric patients can occur at any point in the course of the disease. Some emergencies are the initial presentation, some arise in the patient with an established diagnosis as complications of therapy, and some develop at the time of disease progression or recurrence. The emergencies can be classified to mechanical, metabolic and hematologic. Mechanical oncologic emergencies are usually divided by system to cardiothoracic, gastrointestinal, genitourinary and neurologic. Metabolic emergencies comprise tumor lysis syndrome, hypercalcemia and syndrome of inappropriate secretion of antidiuretic hormone / hyponatremia. Hematologic emergencies include hyperleukocytosis associated with metabolic derangements accompanying tumor lysis syndrome, emergencies associated with cytopenias (thrombocytopenia with hemorrhage, neutropenia with fever) and abnormalities of hemostasis. The awareness and knowledge of emergency team and other care providers for possible oncologic emergencies in children with cancer is of fundamental importance. Earlier identification of life-threatening complications, rapid assessment, and proper management strategies significantly contribute to positive outcomes.

Biography:

Jelena Roganovic has completed her medical education from Rijeka/Croatia, Padua/Italy, and Cincinnati/USA. Currently she is the Full Professor tenure of Pediatrics and Chair of the Department of Pediatrics School of Medicine University of Rijeka, the Head of the Division of Pediatric Hematology and Oncology, and the Head of the Department of Pediatrics, Clinical Hospital Centre Rijeka, Croatia. She published more than 300 papers, book chapters, proceedings and abstracts. She is a certified member of many national and international pediatric societies, a reviewer for a number of indexed journals, and an editorial board member of several journals of international repute.