

Clinical Characteristics and Short-Term Outcomes of Pediatric Mediastinal Mass: Prospective Experience from a Tertiary Care Center in Karachi, Pakistan

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KEYWORDS: Leukemia | Lymphoma | Mediastinal mass | Outcome | Pediatric Oncology

1 Objective

To evaluate the clinical and demographic characteristics, diagnostic approaches and management outcomes of pediatric patients presenting with mediastinal mass.

3 Results: Patient Profile (N = 100)

100

pediatric patients

9.5 yrs

median age (IQR 6)

76%

male

94.8%

malignant (of 97 diagnosed)

2 Methods

Study design
Prospective longitudinal study

Setting
Dept. of Pediatric Oncology, The Indus Hospital and Health Network

Study period
December 2021 – January 2023

Participants
100 pediatric patients under 17 years with radiologically confirmed mediastinal widening (mediastinum-to-chest ratio > 0.25)

Data collected
Clinical presentation, radiologic and laboratory findings, sedation practices, steroid or chemotherapy use, and short-term outcomes

Statistical analysis
SPSS version 21; $p < 0.05$ considered statistically significant

Clinical Symptoms

Fever
78%

Lymphadenopathy
52%

Cough
27%

Dyspnea
27%

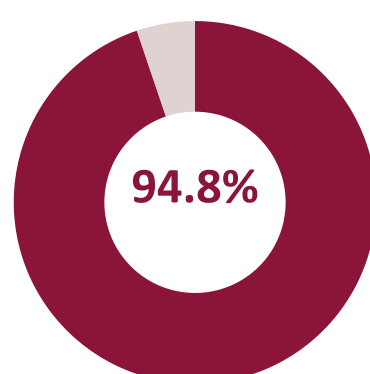
Outcomes (N = 100)

80%
Discharged

14%
Died

4%
Left against medical advice

Diagnosis (among 97 patients)



40.5%
T-lymphoblastic leukemia/lymphoma

26.8%
Hodgkin lymphoma

27.5%
Other malignant

5.2%
Non-malignant

Method of diagnosis

Radiologic (mediastinum-to-chest ratio > 0.25) and laboratory findings

4 Conclusion

Age, gender, type of sedation and steroid or chemotherapy use did not influence short-term management outcomes (no significant association, $p > 0.05$). The study helps categorize risk and formulate personalized treatment plans for patients with mediastinal masses.