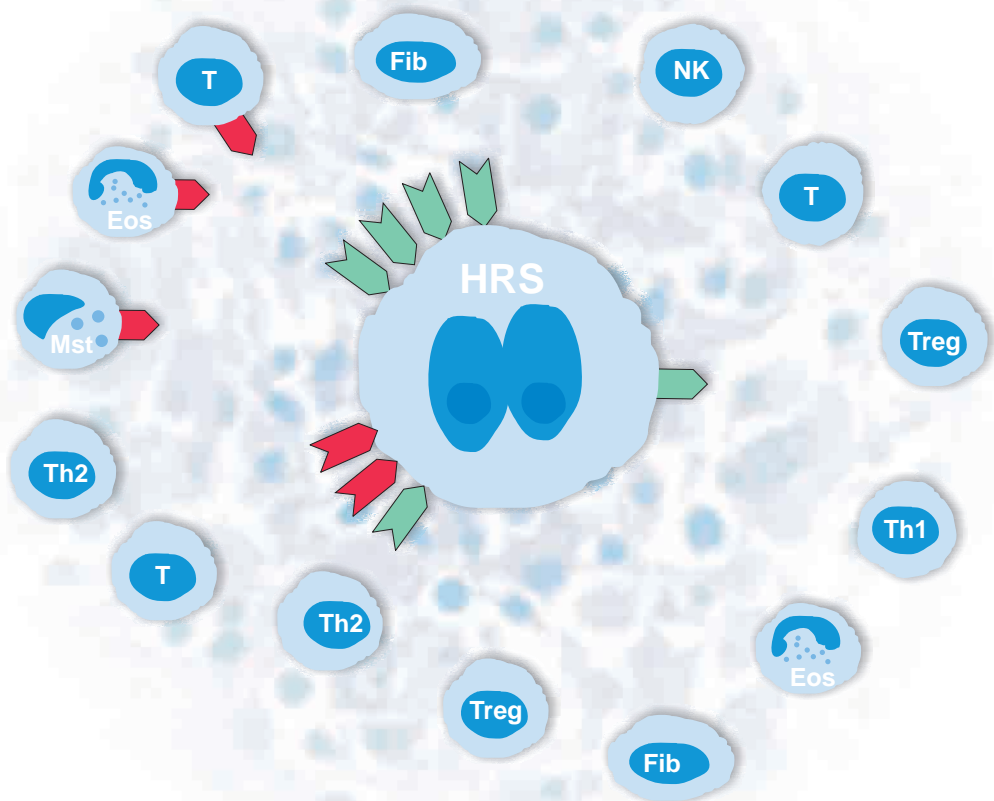


Hodgkin Lymphoma

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MEDICINE - STATE OF THE ART

UNI-MED Verlag AG, one of the leading medical publishing companies in Germany, presents its highly successful series of scientific textbooks, covering all medical subjects. The authors are specialists in their fields and present the topics precisely, comprehensively, and with the facility of quick reference in mind. The books will be most useful for all doctors who wish to keep up to date with the latest developments in medicine.

Preface

Hodgkin lymphoma is the most common haematological neoplasm in young adults (mean age at disease onset 32 years). The advent of polychemotherapy in the 1970s and its combination with consolidation radiotherapy have meant that a large proportion of these patients can be cured. Even in advanced stages, very aggressive primary treatment approaches show high tumour-specific cure rates. With the curability of Hodgkin lymphoma, however, questions relating to the side effects of our treatments have become the focus of attention. Late side effects are still significant for our young patients even 20 years after diagnosis and successful treatment. How much and which treatment an individual patient really needs are therefore relevant clinical questions. Using functional imaging, current studies are attempting to select patients in whom the therapy can be reduced or escalation of therapy is required. But recent years have also seen a boom in the development of new medicines, and the antibody-drug conjugate brentuximab-vedotin means that we now have the first drug for more than 30 years to be newly licensed for Hodgkin lymphoma.

Against the background of this enduring optimism, this book aims to give an up-to-date and structured overview of prerequisites in the investigation and therapy of patients with Hodgkin lymphoma. The pathogenesis of this still misunderstood lymphoma will also be summarised. This book aims to give the attending physician the possibility to be able to take into account in a critical, comprehensive fashion current knowledge for the treatment of an individual patient. Since this field is continuously being further developed, we also look forward to a lively dialogue with the readers of this book.

Cologne, August 2012

Peter Borchmann & Andreas Engert

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