ABSTRACT

Background: Marked variations in the incidence and survival of particular types of childhood cancer exist between countries. This study is to explore epidemiology, survival and trends of pediatric cancers in Jordan 2001–2011.

Methods: Descriptive study done. Cases were identified from Jordan cancer registry. All Jordanian pediatric cancers which diagnosed during 2001–2011 were included. Data about age, sex, site, morphology, vital status (alive, dead), date of last visit were collected. SPSS software20 used for analysis & Kaplan Meier method was used to calculate five- and ten-year survival rate.

Results: There were 2267 (5%) registered malignant tumor during the period 2001–2011. Crude incidence rate for cancers is 99/million in children (111 for males and 85 for females). It is more common in males (57.8%), than in females (42.2%), M:F ratio 1.4:1, Median age was 5 years. The highest percent for pediatric cancers was seen in the age group 0–4 years 41.8%. The most common types of cancers were leukemia (31%), brain and CNS (16.5%), Lymphoma (15.9%). Five and ten years Survival rate for pediatric cancers is 70% and 65% respectively. Five Survival rate was best seen in eye cancer patients 91%, and the poorest survival rate was seen in neuroblastoma cancers patients (46%) leukemia (73%), brain CNS (58%) and lymphoma (86%).

Conclusion: The pattern of childhood cancer in Jordan seems to be similar to other countries in our region, where leukemia, lymphoma and brain & CNS were the most common cancers in Jordan and countries in the region, although survival rate is slightly better in Jordan than in other countries in the region.