Lymphoid Tumours

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A survey of the lymphoid tumours in and around the eye is given with demonstration of their histopathology. Lymphoid tumours are tumours of the haematopoietic system and knowing the multipotentiality of the un-differentiated reticulum cell, we may understand the difficulty in histologic identification of the tumour cells.

The conclusion is made that many times it will be impossible to come to a certain diagnosis, especially, as in cases of tumours around the eye, on biopsy only. Full clinical evidence and careful follow-up of the patient will be essential in these cases.

Discussion

van de Heuvel: Is grateful to Donders for his very clear description of the diagnostic problems of these tumours. Thanks to his own experience, gained with three patients in the last years, he asked if it is also Donders' view – the benignity being so doubtful in the case of benign lymphomata – that the best treatment to choose is radiotherapy.

Donders: The presented cases, belonging to the benign second group (Zimmerman's classification), and the hard to classify third group, all showed a benign course and did not relapse after a low dose of roentgen irradiation. In my view, all lymphoid tumours, except the obvious malignant first group, generally prove to have a benign character. I agree with van de Heuvel, intensive and careful follow-up in all these cases is of essential importance.