

## IMMUNOLOGIC MARKERS AND MORPHOLOGY IN CHILDHOOD LYMPHOBLASTIC LYMPHOMA

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The neoplastic cells from 13 children with lymphoblastic lymphoma were studied for cell surface markers. Cell surface immunoglobulin, non-immune rosette formation with sheep red blood cells and reactions of specific anti-human-T-cell-serum were investigated. 10 cases showed a primary localization of the lymphoma in the anterior mediastinum (7 of these children showed a leukaemic transformation). The cells of all 10 patients bound sheep red blood cells and anti-T-serum lysed these lymphoma cells. The presence of an anterior mediastinal mass and the immunological T-cell surface markers suggest a thymic origin. The lymphoma cells of these cases showed a "convoluted" cell type. 3 children had primary involvement of the gastrointestinal tract and showed the histological criteria of the Burkitt type tumor. The cells did not bind sheep red blood cells and did not react with anti-human-T-cell-serum. However, detectable surface immunoglobulin indicated a B-cell characteristic. The surface markers are compared with morphological and clinical characteristics.