

PEDIATRIC MALIGNANCIES - RECOMMENDATIONS

II. TYPES OF MALIGNANCIES

RECOMMENDATION:

Malignancy should be carefully considered in HIV-infected children who exhibit any combination of these symptoms: fever, weight loss, hepatomegaly, jaundice, abdominal distension, CNS symptoms, pancytopenia, and bone pain.

IV. TREATMENT

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Children with HIV infection and malignancies should be referred for treatment to pediatric oncologists. Additionally, the complexity of managing pediatric patients with HIV and malignancies demands close collaborative follow-up by various disciplines, including pediatric hematologists/oncologists, specialists in pediatric HIV, and pharmacists.

Because therapy regimens applied to cure malignancies (particularly those required for treating advanced B-cell lymphomas) are extremely aggressive, special care should be given with regard to associated toxicities.

While HIV-infected patients are undergoing treatment for their malignancy, practitioners should concomitantly deliver combination antiretroviral therapy while carefully considering the resulting increase in side effects and the increasingly complex and common drug-to-drug interactions.

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