

# Leukaemia Section

## Short Communication

### +8 or trisomy 8

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## Clinics and pathology

### Disease

Chronic myelogenous leukaemia (CML)

### Epidemiology

+8 is one of the major anomalies additional to the t(9;22), with i(17q), + der(22), before +19; found as a unique additional anomaly in 10%, with other in 25% of CML cases with clonal evolution; these additional anomalies may be present at the diagnosis of CML (in 10%, possibly with unfavourable significance), or may appear during course of the disease, they do not indicate the imminence of a blast crisis, although they also frequently emerge at the time of acute transformation; +8 is more often found in the myeloid than in the lymphoid blast crisis.

### Prognosis

+8 has apparently no prognostic significance in CML.

### Disease

Other chronic myeloproliferative diseases: polycytemia vera (PV), and idiopathic myelofibrosis (but not found in essential thrombocythemia).

### Epidemiology

+8 is found in 20% of PV cases with an abnormal karyotype, mostly as the sole anomaly, may be accompanied with +9 (abnormal karyotypes in PV occur mainly with evolution, but the appearance of a clonal anomaly does not indicate progression of the disease); +8 is found in 10% of myelofibrosis cases with chromosome anomalies, sometimes with +9.

### Prognosis

No prognostic significance.

### Disease

Myelodysplastic syndromes (MDS): refractory anaemia (RA), refractory anaemia with ring sideroblasts (RARS), refractory anaemia with excess of blasts ± in transformation (RAEB±T), chronic myelomonocytic leukaemia (CMML).

### Note

The present (unpublished) review of about 250 ANLL cases with +8 is a review of literature cases and may therefore be biased, although the percentages herein given are in accordance with those of large series.

### Epidemiology

+8 is found in 15-20% of MDS; 5-10% of MDS with +8 are treatment-related MDS; +8 is present in each FAB subgroup: up to 30% of RARS cases have +8; 15-20% of other subgroups have +8.

+8 is: the sole anomaly in 55%, found with simple karyotypic changes in 20%, and part of a complex karyotype in the remaining 25% of cases.

Altogether, sex ratio is 1.5M/1F (1.8/1 in cases RAEB±T and CMML, 1/1 in RA or RARS).

- 15% of +8/MDS are found with -5/del(5q), often in complex karyotypes.

- 4% of +8/MDS are found with t(1;7)(q10;p10)(and 20% of t(1;7)/MDS-ANLL also associate +8).

- 4% as well are found with del(20q), mainly in simple karyotypes.

- +8 is strikingly found in independant subclones, with other subclones carrying other anomalies, in particular del(5q) or t(1;7) (e.g.: 46, XY, del(5q)/47, XY, +8).

**Prognosis**

Median survival would near 2 years.

**Disease**

Acute non lymphocytic leukaemias (ANLL)

**Note**

The present (unpublished) review of more than 500 ANLL cases with +8 is a review of literature cases and may therefore be biased, although the percentages herein given are in accordance with those of large series; we also add 39 unpublished t(11;19) to 101 published cases.

**Epidemiology**

+8 is found in 10-15% of ANLL; 10% of ANLL with +8 are treatment-related ANLL; +8 is present in each FAB subgroup (from M1 to M7) in a grossly equivalent percentage (but in M5a where the percentage is higher), in contrast to what has been previously claimed; cases may present with a preceding myelodysplasia.

+8 is: the sole anomaly in 40%, found with simple karyotypic changes in 35%, and part of a complex karyotype in the remaining 25% of cases.

altogether, sex ratio is 1.2/1 (1.6/1 in cases with a complex karyotype, 1/1 otherwise).

- 5-10% of +8/ANLL are found with -5/del(5q)and/or -7/del(7q), often associated, and nearly always in complex karyotypes.

- 5-10% also are found in t(15;17)/M3 cases, mostly as a single additional anomaly, while 1/3 of t(15;17) are accompanied with +8.

- 5-10% are found with inv(16), mainly in simple karyotypes (and 15% of inv(16) cases also carry +8).

- 5% are associated with +21, often parts of a complex karyotype.

- 5% also are found in 11q23 ANLL, mostly in t(9;11)(p22;q23) cases (and 20% of t(9;11) also carry +8, while 15% of t(11;19)(q23;p13.3)/ANLL or ALL (91 cases, 25 unpublished), 10% of t(6;11)(q27;q23)/ANLL, t(10;11)(p12;q23)/ANLL, and t(11;19)(q23;p13.1)/ANLL (49 cases, 14 unpublished) as well, and only 3% of t(4;11)(q21;q23)/ALL, have an additional 8 chromosome.

- Less than 5% are found with t(8;21)(q21;q21) often in simple karyotypes, and 10% of t(8;21) associate +8.

- Less than 5% also are associated with t(9;22)(q34;q11)/ANLL, mostly in complex karyotypes.

- 2% are associated with +9, either in simple or in complex karyotypes.

- 1% of +8/ANLL are found with t(1;7)(q10;p10), but as far as 20% of t(1;7) also associate +8.

- 15% of Down syndrome patients with MDS/ANLL have +8 in their leukaemic cells.

**Clinics**

From 2 studies on ANLL in adults with +8 solely: no specific FAB subgroup; median age was 60 years (vs 50 years in cases of +8 accompanying t(8;21), t(15;17) or inv(16)); no gross organomegaly; moderate WBC.

**Prognosis**

Of ANLL in adults with +8 solely: complete remission in 60-70% (vs 90% in cases accompanying t(8;21), t(15;17) or inv(16)); median survival was 13 months in one study, 20 months in another; taking all +8 cases, solely or not, median survival would be of about a year; +8 does not seem to alter the relatively good prognosis of t(8;21), t(15;17) or inv(16), while the (numerous) cases with a complex karyotype exhibit a poor outcome; age is an adverse feature.

**Disease**

Acute lymphocytic leukaemia (ALL)

**Phenotype/cell stem origin**

+8 is more often found in B-cell than in T-cell cases.

**Epidemiology**

- +8 is a rare anomaly in lymphoid malignancies (90% of +8 occur in myeloid malignancies); found in about 5% of ALL.

- Rarely found as a sole anomaly (5-10%), may be part of hyperploid karyotypes (>50 chromosomes mainly) without structural anomalies (20% of cases), mostly found in complex karyotypes with structural anomalies (2/3 of cases), these complex karyotypes being often hyperploid as well.

- Sex ratio: 1.5/1.

- Accompany (mostly in complex karyotypes): t(9;22)(q34;q11)/ALL, t(4;11) (see above) and other 11q23, del(6q), t(1;19)(q23;p13), dic(9;12) and other known primary anomalies.

**Disease**

Non-Hodgkin lymphomas

**Epidemiology**

+8 is exceptional; has been found associated with t(14;18)(q32;q21), t(8;14)(q24;q32), and other known or unknown anomalies.

**Disease**

Chronic lymphoproliferative diseases

**Epidemiology**

Very rare anomaly (to be noted that +8 is

exceptional in T-prolymphocytic leukaemia, in contrast with the frequency of i(8q), which occurs by completely different mechanisms, but gives, for parts, very similar genetic imbalances).

## Genetics

### Note

Genes (possibly) involved are unknown.

## To be noted

### Note

Karyotypes with +8 may be misinterpreted with a possible overlooked constitutional trisomy 8, a syndrome associating mild to moderate mental delay and (sometimes mild as well) bone anomalies; furthermore constitutional trisomy 8 has been said to be at increased risk of cancers, haematological malignancies in particular.

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