

# ***AIDS/HIV RELATED MALIGNANCIES : TYPES OF CANCER. REVIEW OF THE LITERATURE.***

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Introduction: People with HIV infection or AIDS are actually more likely to get some types of cancer than people who are not infected. Some types of cancer occur so often in people with AIDS that they are considered AIDS-defining conditions- that is, their presence in a person infected with HIV is a clear sign that full-blown AIDS has developed.

Aim: Types of cancer which are related with AIDS/HIV infection.

Methods-Material: Systematic Review of the literature, Article in the Pubmed, electronic data- base, Key words: AIDS, HIV infection, cancer, malignancies.

**Results:** The cancers that define a person with HIV as having AIDS include: Kaposi sarcoma , non – Hodgkin lymphoma ( primary central nervous) ,Invasive cervical cancer .Kaposi sarcoma (KS) is a cancer that develops from the cells that line lymph or blood vessels. It was once an uncommon cancer that mainly affected older men of Mediterranean, Eastern European, or Middle Eastern ancestry, organ transplant patients, or young men in Africa and in the United States have been linked to HIV infection in homosexual men. These cases are called epidemic KS (or AIDS – related KS). KS related to a second viral infection. This virus is called human herpesvirus 8 (HHV-8). The HHV-8 virus is found in saliva. HIV/AIDS- related Kaposi’s sarcoma causes lesions to arise in multiple sites in the body, including the skin, lymph nodes, and organs such as the liver , spleen, lungs, and digestive tract. Non – Hodgkin lymphoma ( NHL) is a cancer that starts in lymphoid tissue and may spread to other organs.



It is more likely to occur in people with HIV infection or AIDS than in people who are not infected. Fewer people with HIV are developing NHL since anti-HIV drugs have been in common use. The most common types of non-Hodgkin lymphoma in people with AIDS is primary central nervous system (CNS) lymphoma. Symptoms of CNS lymphoma can include seizures, facial paralysis, confusion, memory loss, and feeling tired. AIDS-related NHL can also include diffuse large B-cell lymphoma and Burkitt lymphoma. More than 80% of lymphomas in people with HIV/AIDS are high-grade B-cell lymphoma. While 10% to 15% of lymphomas among people with cancer who do not have HIV/AIDS are of this type. HIV-infected women are at high risk for getting cervical intraepithelial neoplasia (CIN). CIN can progress to invasive cervical cancer, in which the cancer cells grow into deeper layers of the cervix. Other types of cancer are also more likely to develop in people with HIV than in people who are not infected, including: anal cancer, Hodgkin disease, melanoma skin cancer, liver cancer, lung cancer, mouth and throat cancers, testicular cancer, squamous cell and basal cell skin cancers. The link between HIV and these cancers is still not fully understood. Some of these cancers have been linked to infections with different viruses. These viruses can cause cancer in people with and without HIV, but the risk might be higher in people with HIV because their immune systems are less able to control the viral growth.



- Conclusion: People with HIV-AIDS are at high risk for developing certain cancers such as Kaposi's sarcoma, non lymphoma, and cervical cancer. The connection between HIV/AIDS and certain cancers is not completely understood, but the link likely depends on a weakened immune system. Other, less common types of cancer that may develop in people with HIV/AIDS are Hodgkin's lymphoma, angiosarcoma, anal cancer, liver cancer, mouth cancer, throat cancer, lung cancer, testicular cancer, colorectal cancer, and multiple types of skin cancer including basal cell carcinoma, squamous cell carcinoma, and melanoma. The use of anti-HIV drugs has also led to better cancer survival rates for people with HIV , as many people are now able to get full doses of chemotherapy and other standard cancers treatments, which may not have been possible in the past.

- References:

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