

Case Report: Acute Tumour Lysis Syndrome

C T H Chuah,**MB,ChB (UK), MRCP (UK), M Med (Int Med)*, L C Lim,***FAMS, MBBS, MRCP (UK)*

Abstract

Introduction: Acute tumour lysis syndrome (ATLS) is a potentially lethal but preventable complication of oncological treatment. **Clinical Picture:** We report a case of a patient with Burkitt's leukaemia who developed ATLS after treatment with chemotherapy. **Treatment:** Standard preventive measures using aggressive hydration, urine alkalinisation and uricosuric agents were instituted before chemotherapy. **Outcome:** However in spite of adequate measures, the patient succumbed to the sequelae of ATLS. **Conclusions:** It is therefore important to identify patients who are at a high risk of developing ATLS so that additional measures can be taken to prevent it from occurring.

Ann Acad Med Singapore 2001; 30:55-7

Key words: Burkitt's leukaemia, Lactate dehydrogenase, Urate oxidase

* Registrar

** Consultant

Department of Haematology
Singapore General Hospital

Address for Reprints: Dr Charles Chuah, Department of Haematology, Singapore General Hospital, 1 Hospital Drive, Singapore 169608.