

Okayama University Medical Research Updates (OU-MRU)

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Okayama University research: Primary intraocular lymphoma does not always spread to the central nervous system

(Okayama, 4 December) Researchers at Okayama University report in the Journal of clinical and experimental hematopathology that primary intraocular lymphoma, a cancer in the eye, does not always develop into central nervous system lymphoma. In addition, the scientists confirmed that there is no marker available to predict when the former will develop into the latter.

Primary intraocular lymphoma (PIOL) is a cancer in the eye originating in lymphocytes, cells of the immune system that fight infections; lymphoma is the condition when lymphocytes grow in an uncontrolled way. Often, PIOL develops into central nervous system lymphoma — uncontrolled growth of lymphocytes in the nervous system in the brain and the spinal cord. It is not clear, however, whether this development always occurs. Now, Professor MATSUO Toshihiko (eye doctor) and Assistant Professor TANAKA Takehiro (pathologist) from Okayama University have addressed the question whether there are PIOLs that do not develop central nervous system lymphoma. They observed a group of patients, and found that in the small number of cases, PIOL does not spread to the central nervous system. Importantly, PIOL has a good prognosis if it does not develop into central nervous system lymphoma.

The researchers studied 22 patients (14 women, 8 men) for up to 14 years. The patients' ages ranged from 42 to 84 years at the time of the first eye examination. In 12 patients, both eyes were affected by PIOL; in the others, only one eye. All 22 patients underwent vitrectomy (surgery in which some or all of the vitreous gel between the retina and the lens in the middle of the eye is removed) after diagnosis of PIOL.

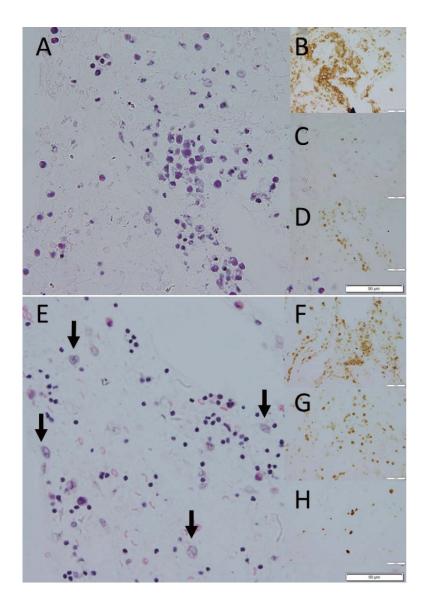
Of the 22 patients, 17 developed central nervous lymphoma. For 3 of the 5 patients who did not, the follow-up period was relatively short (up to 3 years). The follow-up periods for the other 2 patients were 5 and 11 years; these patients did not undergo chemotherapy or radiation of the eye. Based on these long-term follow-up results, Matsuo and Tanaka concluded that PIOL does not necessarily develop into central nervous system lymphoma.

The scientists also examined whether the presence of a protein called CD5 in specimens taken during vitrectomy surgery are a marker of central nervous system lymphoma. But both patients with CD5-positive and patients with CD5-negative tests developed central nervous system lymphoma, which made Matsuo and Tanaka conclude that "at present, there is no marker available to predict whether a patient with PIOL will develop central nervous system lymphoma."

Background

Primary intraocular lymphoma (PIOL)

Primary intraocular lymphoma (PIOL) is a cancer that involves the retina, the vitreous chamber in the middle of the eye and/or the optic nerve. It manifests itself as opacity of the gel in the vitreous chamber, which can be accompanied by lesions in the retina, in subretinal pigment epithelium (beneath the pigmented cell layer just outside the retina), or in the optic nerve. Often, PIOL develops into central nervous system lymphoma, simultaneously or at a later time. Professor MATSUO Toshihiko and Assistant Professor TANAKA Takehiro from Okayama University have now investigated if PIOL also occurs without development into central nervous system lymphoma, and whether a marker for such development exists.



Caption

Pathological staining of vitrectomy cell blocks for two cases (top and bottom) where PIOL occurred without the development of central nervous system lymphoma.



Reference

Toshihiko Matsuo, Takehiro Tanaka. Are there primary intraocular lymphomas that do not develop into central nervous system lymphomas?. *Journal of Clinical and Experimental Hematopathology*, Vol. 59 No.4, 2019.

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https://www.jstage.jst.go.jp/article/jslrt/advpub/0/advpub 19019/ article/-char/ja/

Reference (Okayama Univ. e-Bulletin): Professor MATSUO's team

e-Bulletin Vol.8: Photoelectric dye-coupled thin film as a novel type of retinal prosthesis

OU-MRU Vol.8: Light-responsive dye stimulates sight in genetically blind patients

OU-MRU Vol.39: Successful test of retinal prosthesis implanted in rats
OU-MRU Vol.47: Candidate genes for eye misalignment identified

OU-MRU Vol.53: Successful implantation and testing of retinal prosthesis in monkey eyes

with retinal degeneration

OU-MRU Vol.70: Prosthetics for Retinal Stimulation

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Okayama Univ. e-Bulletin: http://www.okayama-u.ac.jp/user/kouhou/ebulletin/

We love OKAYAMA UNIVERSITY:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7cXlttQIk3E

Okayama University Image Movie (2018):

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WmyqOTuigBs





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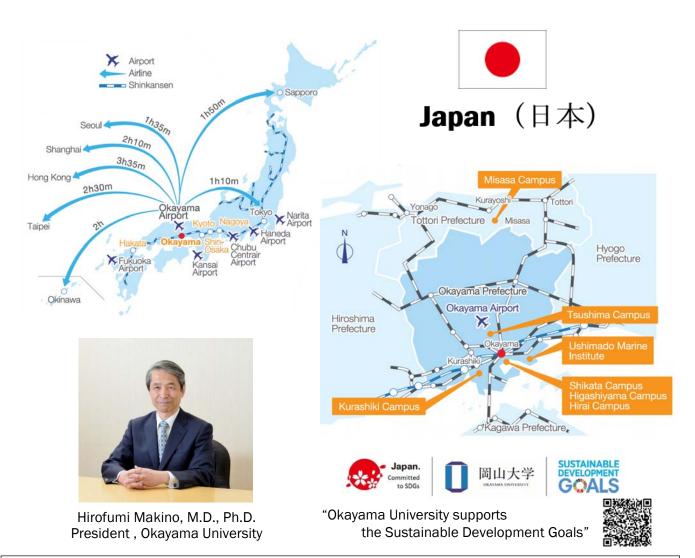
Okayama University supports the Sustainable Development Goals

◆About Okayama University

Okayama University is one of the largest comprehensive universities in Japan with roots going back to the Medical Training Place sponsored by the Lord of Okayama and established in 1870. Now with 1,300 faculty and 13,000 students, the University offers courses in specialties ranging from medicine and pharmacy to humanities and physical sciences.

Okayama University is located in the heart of Japan approximately 3 hours west of Tokyo by Shinkansen.

Website: http://www.okayama-u.ac.jp/index_e.html





Okayama University holds the "SiEED Conference 2019" to provide an opportunity to hold discussions with globally competent innovators

News Conference Movie(You Tube)

