

ROLE OF IHC IN DIAGNOSIS OF GASTROINTESTINAL LYMPHOMAS

13th October 2013

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Targeted Therapy for B-Cell Lymphoma: The Story of Rituximab

- Prior to 1975, rapid progress had been made in the use of chemotherapy for the treatment of lymphoma. Increasing toxicity while making only incremental improvements in patient survival.
- Antibodies are one way the immune system recognizes and destroys foreign invaders. Cancer cells are not foreign, since they are part of our own body, but they often exhibit alien features that could make them appear foreign.
- The first target that was chosen was a specific protein present on lymphoma tumor cells, but not on normal cells, termed an “idiotypic.”
- Each lymphoma tumor has its own unique idiotypic; therefore, it was necessary to make a different antibody for each patient.
- In 1981, the first patient was treated with one of these “anti-idiotypic antibodies,” and, amazingly, the tumor melted away without significant side effects

CASE 1

Clinical details :

72 year old male
Foreign body sensation in the throat
Odynophagia
Nausea
Endoscopy - ? Carcinoma stomach

Specimen :

Endoscopic gastric growth biopsy

