



# Endocrine Late Effects in Survivors of Pediatric SCT

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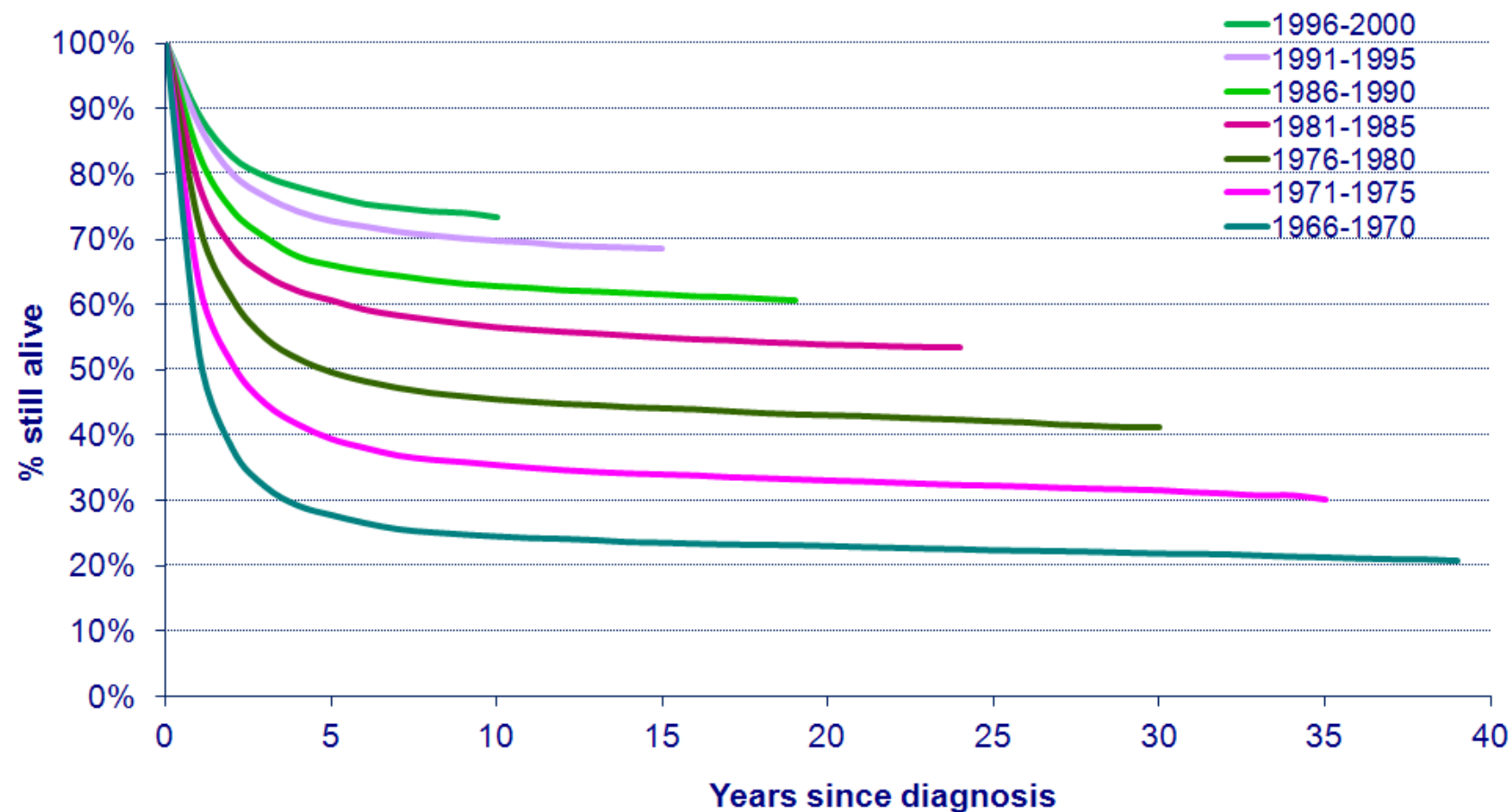
Sheba Medical Center, Israel

#EBMT2015

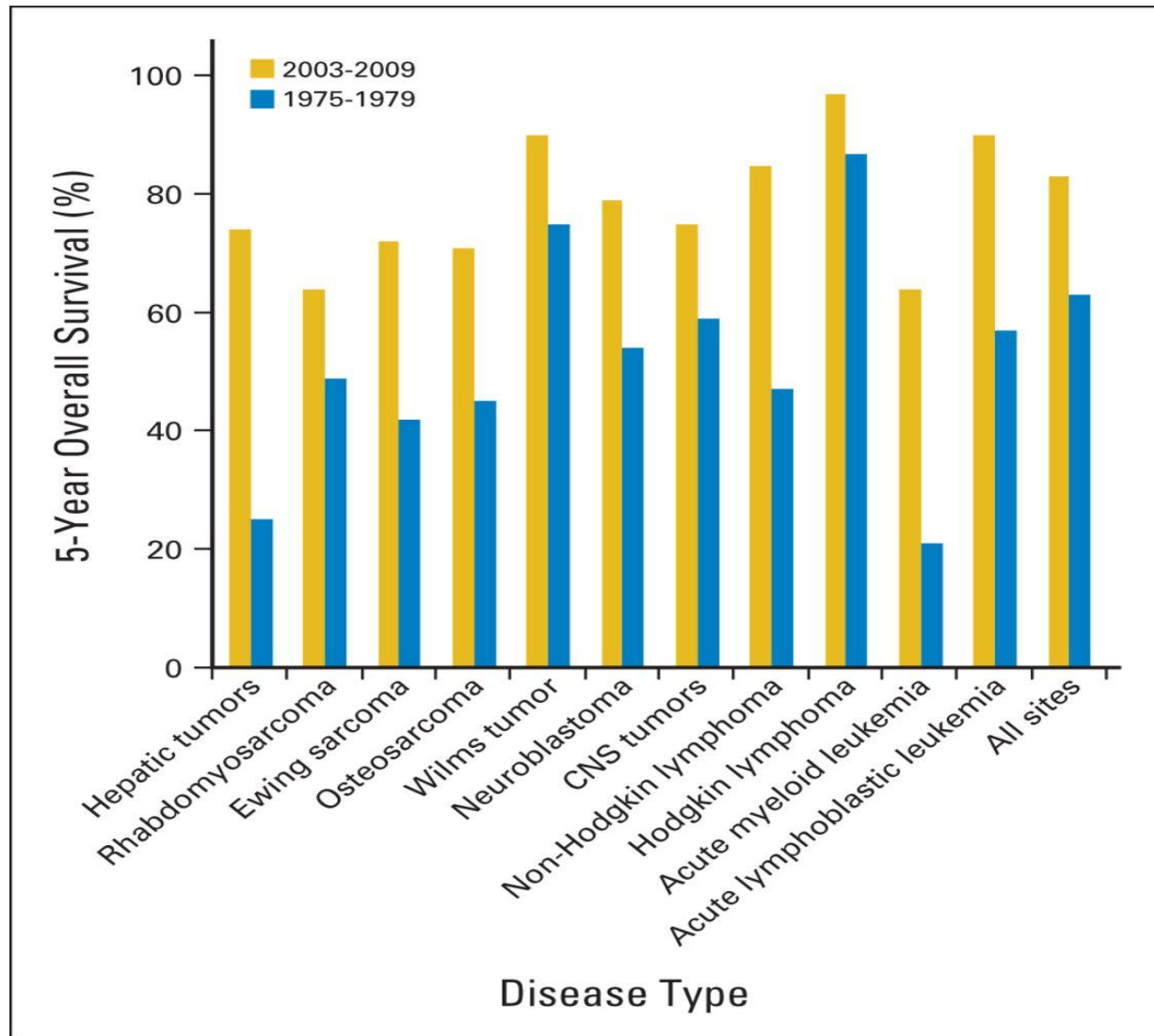


[www.ebmt.org](http://www.ebmt.org)

**Figure 3.1: Survival of childhood cancer patients diagnosed 1966-2000, by period of diagnosis**



## Five-year survival rates for two time periods for pediatric cancer diagnosed from birth to 19 years old.



# Cure Had Not Come Without a Price

- Increasing population of SCT survivors
- Survivors are at risk for chronic or late-occurring health problems caused by their cancer or its treatment
- Thirty years after diagnosis 75% of all survivors will experience at least one late treatment effect

# Endocrine Complications



- Most common late effect in survivors of childhood cancer & SCT
- Observed in 20%-50% of survivors
- Followed into adulthood

# Risk Factors for Endocrine Dysfunction

- Primary diagnosis & its treatment
- Age at transplant
- Conditioning regimen
- Gender of patient
- Post Transplant exposure; GvHD, Steroids
- Tyrosine kinase inhibitors (TKI)

# Endocrine Complications

- Growth impairment
- Thyroid dysfunction
- Puberty
- Gonadal failure
- Metabolic Syndrome



# Growth Impairment- Etiology

- Exposure to spinal radiation, TBI
- Chemotherapy treatments
- Age at SCT
- Production of sex hormones
- Hypothyroidism
- Growth hormone (GH) deficiency
- Suboptimal nutrition





# Growth Hormone Deficiency



- Hypothalamus/pituitary radiotherapy & TBI
- Radiotherapy- dose and time dependent effect
- Imatinib- tyrosine kinase inhibitor
- Should be investigated when linear growth velocity decelerates over a 6-month period

## Evaluation

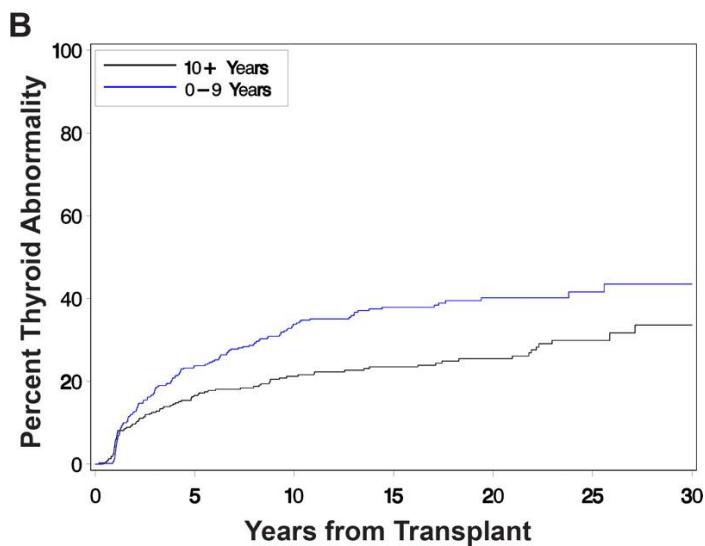
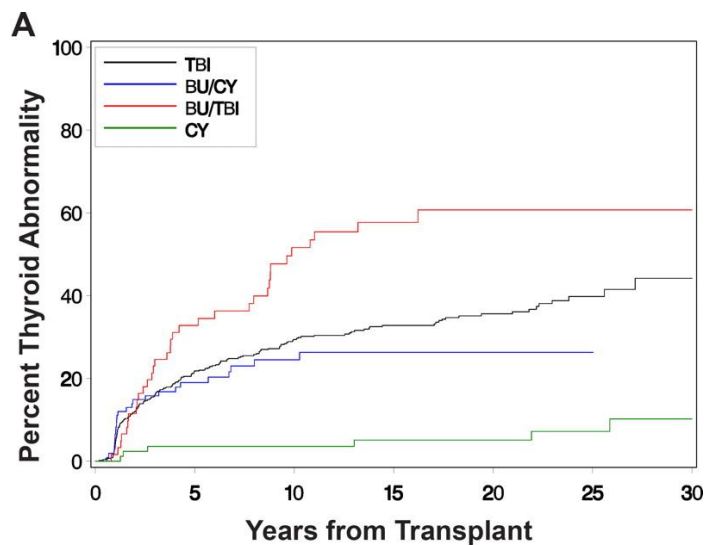


- Accurate measurement of height
- Measurement of bone age
- Two measurements of GH secretion
- Treatment with rGH replacement therapy is not initiated until 12 months after completing cancer treatment
- Safety of treatment?

# Thyroid Dysfunction

- Hypothyroidism is the most common thyroid abnormality
- Radiation to neck, cranio-spinal & TBI
- Busulfan-based regimens
- TKI- Sorafenib, Sunitinib, Imatinib

# Cumulative incidence of developing thyroid dysfunction after HCT in childhood



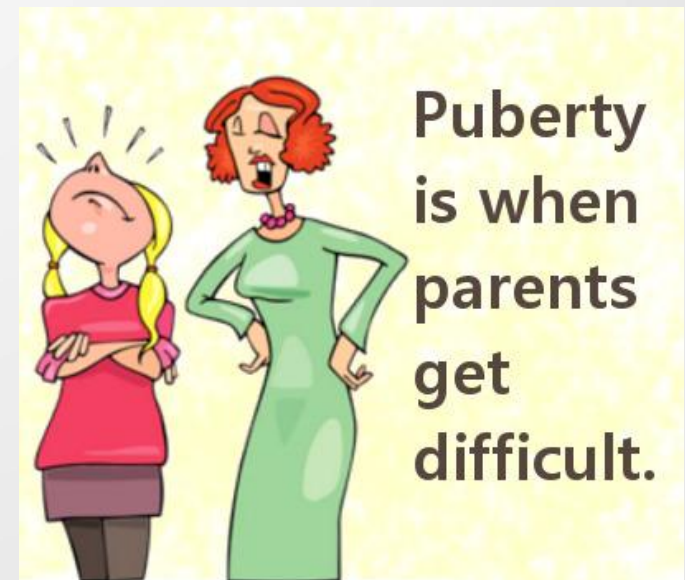


- Surveillance for thyroid dysfunction is crucial
- Hypothyroidism may occur decades later
- TSH, fT4
- Replacement therapy

# Puberty



- Substantial changes in gonadal and GH activity
  - Development of secondary sexual characteristics
  - Increased growth velocity
- 
- Initiation & completion of puberty requires an intact hypothalamic–pituitary–gonadal axis







- Pubertal delay or failure occurs in girls & boys
- Depends on conditioning regimen
- Pubertal development should be carefully monitored after SCT
- Supplemental hormone therapy

# Central Precocious Puberty



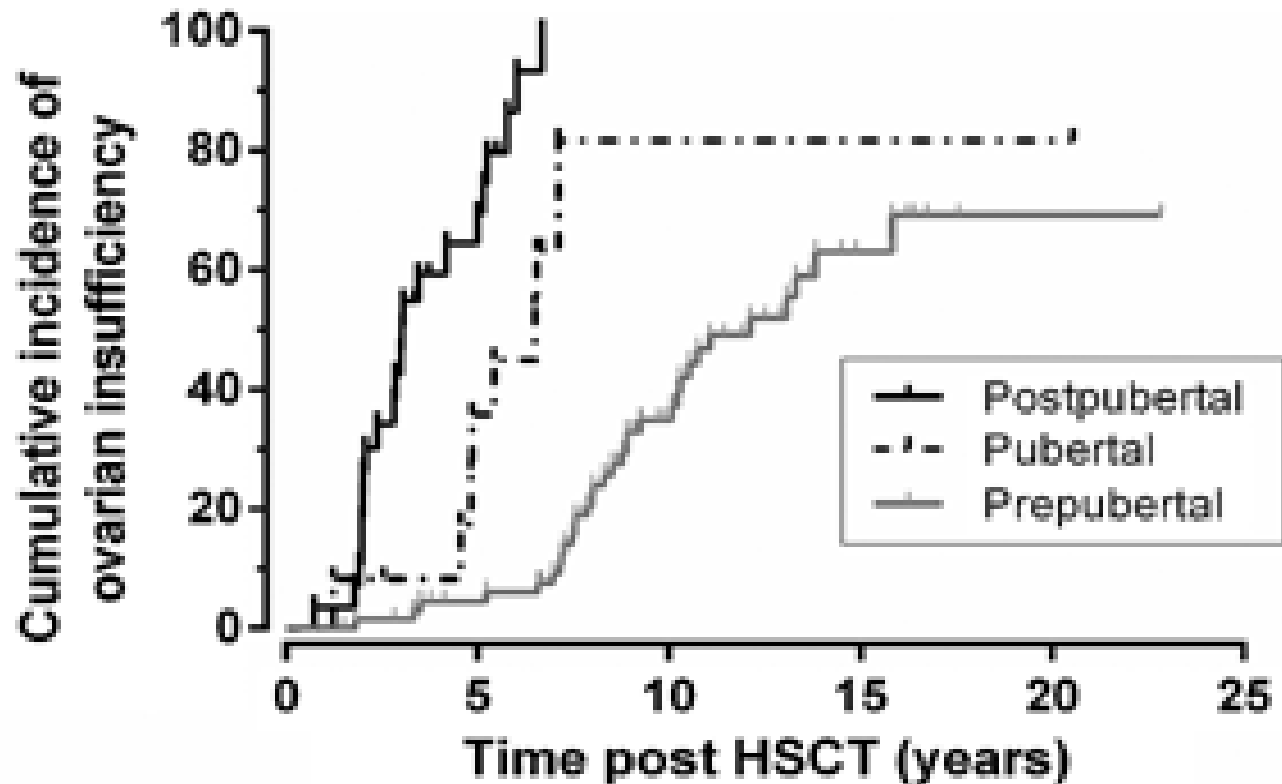
- Early activation of the hypothalamic–pituitary–gonadal axis
- Onset of puberty prior to the ages of 8-9 years
- Pre-mature closure of growth plates
- Treatment with GnRH agonist

## Ovarian Failure



- The ovary is sensitive to the adverse effects of cancer treatments
- Treatments cause a reduction in the ovarian follicle reserve
- Gonadal failure is associated with exposure to CY, BU, and TBI
- Elevated FSH reduced levels of anti-Müllerian hormone (AMH)

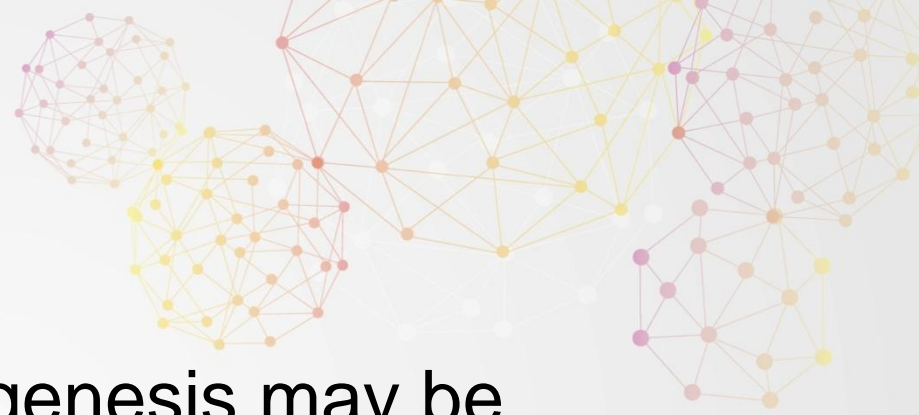
# Ovarian insufficiency and pubertal development after hematopoietic stem cell transplantation in childhood



Prepubertal	69	61	29	7	1
Pubertal	12	7	1	1	1
Postpubertal	28	6			



- Germ cells in the testes normally continue to produce sperm during adulthood
- Risk of gonadal failure depends on type of therapy and doses administered
- CY, TBI destroy germ cells within the testes



- Impairment of spermatogenesis may be permanent or temporary
- Recovery is related to agent and dose received
- Many (48%-85%) males who undergo SCT will experience testicular failure with azoospermia



# Fertility Preservation in Children & Adolescence

Preserving children's fertility: children's right to an open future

## Males

- Sperm banking
- Testicular tissue cryopreservation so far, this has not led to live births





## Females

- Embryo or oocyte cryopreservation
- Ovarian tissue cryopreservation

The only option for pre-pubertal and young females

# Pediatric-Specific HCT Long-Term Follow-Up Guidelines

## REPORT

**ASBMT**  
American Society for Blood and Marrow Transplantation



## NCI, NHLBI/PBMTCT First International Conference on Late Effects after Pediatric Hematopoietic Cell Transplantation: Endocrine Challenges—Thyroid Dysfunction, Growth Impairment, Bone Health & Reproductive Risks

Christopher C. Dvorak,<sup>1</sup> Clarisa R. Gracia,<sup>2</sup> Jean E. Sanders,<sup>3</sup> Edward Y. (K. Scott) Baker,<sup>3</sup> Michael A. Pulsipher,<sup>5</sup> Anna Petryk<sup>6</sup>

The endocrine system is highly susceptible to damage by high-dose chemotherapy and/or irradiation during hematopoietic cell transplantation (HCT) during childhood. The specific endocrine organs most affected by HCT include the thyroid gland, the pituitary, and the gonads. In addition, hormones that regulate development and stability of the skeletal system are also affected. Insufficiency of thyroid hormone is the most common late sequelae of HCT, and occurs more often in young children. Deficient pituitary's production of growth hormone is a problem of unique concern to the pediatric population.



## COG Guidelines



## Nurses Role in Long-Term follow-up

- Multidisciplinary team
- Coordinate care
- Age specific
- Education on disease, late effects, health behavior
- Counseling

## Conclusions



- Need for information on disease & side effects
- Importance of life-long follow-up care
- Need for international guidelines
- Transition to adult care



## Acknowledgments:

Amos Toren

Bella Bielorai

Gal Goldstein

Dalit Modan

In-patient & out-patient nursing teams

Pediatric Hem-Onc & BMT

Sheba Medical Center, Israel

