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**Graft-Versus-Host Disease Following Autologous Transplantation**

K.T., a 76-year-old woman, was diagnosed with stage IIA multiple myeloma in 2007 when she presented with severe back pain. K.T. underwent kyphoplasty, a minimally invasive surgery to relieve compression fractures, followed by eight cycles of lenalidomide with a good response. Peripheral blood stem cells were collected after mobilization with filgrastim and plerixafor. She was admitted to the hospital and conditioned for an autologous hematopoietic cell transplantation (HCT) with melphalan followed by reinfusion of peripheral blood stem cells, receiving a cell dose of 4.26 x 10^6 CD34 cells/kg. K.T. developed neutropenic fever on day 8 that responded to broad spectrum antimicrobials. She achieved a prompt hematologic recovery, reaching an absolute neutrophil count greater than 500 mm³ by day 11 after transplantation. On day 9, however, K.T. developed diarrhea, negative for *Clostridium difficile*, which was managed with antimotility agents. She was discharged 17 days following transplantation with blood counts within normal limits, except for mild anemia.

On day 19, K.T. presented for follow-up with a pruritic, erythematous skin rash covering 45% of her body surface area, involving her upper extremities, anterior, and posterior torso. She also experienced gastrointestinal (GI) symptoms of nausea, abdominal cramping, pain with defecation, and maroon-colored stool (hematochezia). Symptom onset coincided with a taper of prednisone. Her stool tested positive for *C. difficile*, despite the completion of a two-week course of oral vancomycin and metronidazole. A clinical diagnosis of autologous GVHD was suspected, given the presence of GVHD identified on skin biopsy and symptoms that persisted despite receiving metronidazole and vancomycin. Resistant *C. difficile* infection or an opportunistic infection could not be excluded without histologic confirmation. Upper endoscopy and flexible sigmoidoscopy at day 58 revealed severe pseudomembranous colitis with severe gastritis in the antrum and body of the stomach. K.T.’s duodenum appeared normal and no apoptosis was identified. At that time, findings did not support a diagnosis of GVHD. No viral inclusions were seen and immunohistochemical stain for cytomegalovirus was negative. With an excess of 10 loose bowel movements daily, K.T. required a rapid prednisone taper was initiated. This was followed by a rapid steroid taper given the marked improvement in symptoms. On completion of taper, intestinal symptoms recurred, prompting readmission for correction of fluid loss. At the time of this writing, K.T. was being considered for alternative therapy in the treatment of recurrent acute GVHD and complicated *C. difficile* following autologous transplantation for multiple myeloma.

**Autologous Graft-Versus-Host Disease**

Historically, GVHD has been a complication of allogeneic HCT and a major cause of morbidity and mortality (Drobyski, Hari, Keever-Taylor, Komoroski, & Grossman, 2009; Holmberg et al., 2006). An estimated 50%–70% of patients develop acute GVHD following allogeneic HCT (Kline, Van Besien, Nathanson, Noffsinger, & Artz, 2006). Holmberg et al. (2006) reported a similar syndrome that exists in the autologous setting after HCT, one that arises as a result of immunologic manipulation (immunosuppression administration and withdrawal to stimulate a graft-versus-tumor effect) or spontaneously without immunosuppressant stimulation. Spontaneous-onset autologous GVHD...