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## HIV-induced immunodeficiency and mortality from AIDS-defining and non-AIDS-defining malignancies

The Data Collection on Adverse Events of Anti-HIV Drugs (D:A:D) Study Group\*

### Abstract

**Objective**—To evaluate deaths from AIDS-defining malignancies (ADM) and non-AIDS-defining malignancies (nADM) in the D:A:D Study and to investigate the relationship between these deaths and immunodeficiency.

**Design**—Observational cohort study.

**Methods**—Patients (23 437) were followed prospectively for 104 921 person-years. We used Poisson regression models to identify factors independently associated with deaths from ADM and nADM. Analyses of factors associated with mortality due to nADM were repeated after excluding nADM known to be associated with a specific risk factor.

**Results**—Three hundred five patients died due to a malignancy, 298 prior to the cutoff for this analysis (ADM:  $n=110$ ; nADM:  $n=188$ ). The mortality rate due to ADM decreased from 20.1/1000 person-years of follow-up [95% confidence interval (CI) 14.4, 25.9] when the most recent CD4 cell count was  $<50$  cells/ $\mu\text{l}$  to 0.1 (0.03, 0.3)/1000 person-years of follow-up when the CD4 cell count was more than 500 cells/ $\mu\text{l}$ ; the mortality rate from nADM decreased from 6.0 (95% CI 3.3, 10.1) to 0.6 (0.4, 0.8) per 1000 person-years of follow-up between these two CD4 cell count strata. In multivariable regression analyses, a two-fold higher latest CD4 cell count was associated with a halving of the risk of ADM mortality. Other predictors of an increased risk of ADM mortality were homosexual risk group, older age, a previous (non-malignancy) AIDS diagnosis and earlier calendar years. Predictors of an increased risk of nADM mortality included lower CD4 cell count, older age, current/ex-smoking status, longer cumulative exposure to combination antiretroviral therapy, active hepatitis B infection and earlier calendar year.

**Conclusion**—The severity of immunosuppression is predictive of death from both ADM and nADM in HIV-infected populations.

### Keywords

AIDS-defining malignancies; D:A:D study; HIV infection; mortality; non-AIDS-defining malignancies

### Introduction

The use of combination antiretroviral therapy (cART) to treat HIV infection has led to changes in the causes of death in HIV-infected individuals in industrialized countries [1-3]. Over time, the risk that infected individuals will experience other comorbidities has increased, as a

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consequence of concomitant infections, the aging process and the high level of established risk factors for cardiovascular diseases (CVD)/cancers. These comorbidities may also result from prolonged exposure to cART or direct effects of HIV or both [1,2,4-7]. In this context, though the incidence of AIDS-defining malignancies (ADM) has declined, as with other AIDS events [3], non-AIDS-defining malignancies (nADM) are now an important cause of mortality in HIV-infected individuals [1,2,8]; the risk of nADM increases with age in uninfected individuals [9]. The incidence of several nADM is higher among HIV-infected individuals than among the general population in the same geographic area [10]. Several studies that have assessed the standardized incidence ratio of nADM have shown no differences in pre-antiretroviral therapy (ART) and ART calendar times, though many biases might affect these analyses [11-13].

Little is known about mortality from malignancies in the cARTera or risk factors for this. Therefore, we described the rates of death from ADM and nADM and investigated possible risk factors for these deaths, including immunodeficiency.

## Methods

### The D:A:D study

The D:A:D study is an observational study formed by the collaboration of 11 HIV cohorts. The primary aim is to establish whether the use of cART is associated with an increased risk of CVD. The current analysis includes data from 23 437 HIV-positive patients monitored at 188 clinics in Europe, the United States and Australia. The D:A:D study methodology has been detailed elsewhere [7]. Patients were under active follow-up at the time of study enrolment (December 1999-April 2001) and were followed prospectively with data obtained during regular outpatient visits. Information on CVD and deaths is provided in real time; each endpoint is validated and coded centrally. Deaths were classified using the 'Coding of Death in HIV' (CoDe) System [14] that includes detailed information on all causes of death and known comorbidities prior to death. The immediate, contributing and underlying causes of death are identified for all deaths with sufficient information available. Here, we focused on cancer diagnoses coded as the underlying cause of death.

### Study endpoints

Deaths from ADM were those in which the underlying cause of death was Kaposi's sarcoma; non-Hodgkin's lymphoma (NHL), either systemic or of the brain; or cervical cancer. Deaths from nADM were those in which the underlying cause of death was cancer of the lung, anal canal, remaining gastrointestinal tract (gastrointestinal or liver), urogenital tract, upper airways (oral, nasopharynx, larynx), hematological (excluding NHL) or other sites (breast, central nervous system, sarcoma, skin, other).

### Statistical analyses

The analytical approach was similar to that used previously [15]. Individuals were followed prospectively from enrolment in D:A:D until death, 6 months after the individual's last clinic visit or 1st February 2005, whichever occurred first. This censoring strategy (predefined for all D:A:D analyses) is based on the usual time by which a patient would be expected to reattend clinic, and information on death would become available to clinicians through routine means. As some cohorts obtain mortality data from death registries, following all patients until death, including those who had been lost to follow-up, could introduce differential censoring between those who did and did not die.

Each person's follow-up was divided into a series of consecutive 1-month periods, and the individual's status (sex, risk group, ethnicity, most recent CD4 cell count, HIV RNA level,

age, smoking status, previous AIDS, hepatitis B/C and cART exposure with categories as described previously [14]) was determined at the start of each.

Factors associated with death from each type of malignancy were identified from Poisson regression models (GENMOD procedure, SAS software, version 9.1). Factors associated with each outcome in univariable analyses ( $P < 0.1$ ) were included in multivariable regression models that also included adjustment for cohort and calendar year. When constructing these models, all continuous variables were initially categorized and rate ratios examined to see if it was appropriate to combine consecutive categories or include the variables as continuous covariates or both. These analyses, together with a concern for a biologically plausible relationship, suggested that the latest CD4 cell count would be most appropriately included as a continuous  $\log_2$ -transformed covariate. Thus, the estimated rate ratios relate to a doubling in the latest CD4 cell count. These initial analyses also suggested that only a high ( $>10\,000$  copies/ml) HIV RNA level was associated with ADM mortality (with no relationship between latest HIV RNA level and nADM mortality). Visual assessment of the rate ratios suggested that though the risk of ADM mortality was higher in those exposed to cART than in unexposed individuals, there was no trend with additional exposure. Thus, cART exposure was incorporated into these analyses as a binary variable. In contrast, compared with unexposed individuals, those exposed to cART for less than 1, 1-2, 2-3 and 3-4 years had higher but similar death rates from nADM, whereas those exposed for 4-5, 5-6 and more than 6 years had higher (but again similar) death rates. Thus, for analyses of nADM mortality, cART exposure was recategorized as none, less than 4 years and at least 4 years of exposure.

Sensitivity analyses considered whether the nadir CD4 cell count or the cumulative duration of immunosuppression (the total time spent with a CD4 cell count  $<200$  cells/ $\mu$ l) provided additional prognostic information about the risk of ADM/nADM mortality to that already provided by the latest CD4 cell count. In these analyses, models were initially fitted that included only the duration of immunosuppression or nadir CD4 cell count (and all other confounders); the models were then refit after additionally controlling for the latest CD4 cell count. These analyses were restricted to the subgroup of patients exposed to cART. Additional sensitivity analyses considered the impact of lagging CD4 measurements by 3 and 12 months, and the association between the latest CD4 cell count and nADM mortality in different calendar periods, all with similar findings (results not reported). Finally, the list of malignancies considered to be non-AIDS related was modified to remove events known to be associated with specific risk factors, and analyses were repeated to see whether the relationships varied.

## Results

A total of 305 patients in the D:A:D study died from ADM ( $n=112$ ) or nADM ( $n=193$ ). The ADMs leading to death included 82 NHL, 28 Kaposi's sarcomas and two cervical cancers; the most frequent nADM leading to death was lung cancer ( $n=62$ ), followed by gastrointestinal cancers ( $n=25$ ), hematological cancers ( $n=22$ ), anal cancers ( $n=20$ ), urogenital cancers ( $n=18$ ), liver cancers ( $n=16$ ) and cancer of the upper airways ( $n=10$ ). Other nADM were reported for the remaining 20 deaths.

The characteristics of patients dying from each type of malignancy are reported in Table 1. The large majority of individuals were men; patients dying from nADM were older [median age 52 (range, 32-79) versus 43 (range, 23-67) years], were less likely to have a prior (non-malignancy) AIDS diagnosis (49.2 versus 80.4%), had a higher nadir [median 87 cells/ $\mu$ l (range, 0-581) versus 30 cells/ $\mu$ l (range, 0-445)] and higher latest [median 211 cells/ $\mu$ l (range, 1-1183) versus 75 cells/ $\mu$ l (range, 0-671)] CD4 cell count.

Patients contributed 104 921 person-years of follow-up (PYFU) to the analysis; the median follow-up was 4.6 years [interquartile range (IQR) 4.4, 4.9], with an average annual rate of loss to follow-up of less than 3%. Seven of the 305 malignancies (two ADM, five nADM) occurred after the end of follow-up and were excluded from subsequent analyses. Thus, the overall mortality rates from ADM and nADM were 1.1 [95% confidence interval (CI) 0.9-1.2] and 1.8 (95% CI 1.5-2.1)/1000 PYFU, respectively. Mortality rates from ADM and nADM, stratified by the latest CD4 cell count (Fig. 1a) and latest HIV RNA (Fig. 1b), are shown in Fig. 1. The mortality rate of ADM decreased from 20.1 (95% CI 14.4-25.9)/1000 PYFU while the latest CD4 cell count was <50 cells/ $\mu$ l to 0.1 (95% CI 0.03-0.3)/1000 PYFU while the CD4 cell count was >500 cells/ $\mu$ l. A similar, though less pronounced, relationship with the latest CD4 cell count was also seen for deaths from nADM with the mortality rate dropping from 6.0 (95% CI 3.3-10.1)/1000 PYFU to 0.6 (95% CI 0.4-0.8)/1000 PYFU between the same two CD4 cell count strata. Mortality rates for nADM were higher than those for ADM in all but the lowest latest CD4 cell count stratum (<50 cells/ $\mu$ l). The associations between the latest HIV RNA level and mortality from ADM/nADM (Fig. 1b) were not as strong as those seen with the latest CD4 cell count.

In multivariable regression analysis (right-hand column, Table 2), the latest CD4 cell count remained a strong predictor of ADM mortality, whereas the relationship with the latest HIV RNA level became nonsignificant. A two-fold higher (i.e., doubling) CD4 cell count was associated with an approximate halving in ADM mortality (adjusted rate ratio 0.53, 95% CI 0.48-0.59). Other independent predictors of a higher risk of ADM mortality were homosexual risk group, older age, a previous (non-malignancy) AIDS diagnosis and earlier calendar year. Replacement of the latest CD4 cell count with the nadir CD4 cell count led to similar conclusions, but the nadir CD4 cell count was a weaker predictor of ADM mortality. Among patients who had received cART, both the latest CD4 cell count and nadir CD4 cell counts were independently associated with ADM mortality. However, in these analyses, a low latest CD4 cell count (adjusted rate ratio per two-fold higher 0.43, 95% CI 0.36-0.51), but a high nadir CD4 cell count (1.31 per two-fold higher, 95% CI 1.08-1.58) were predictive of ADM mortality, suggesting that those at highest risk were those whose CD4 cell count had remained low on cART, or whose count had risen but subsequently fallen. The duration of immunosuppression was strongly associated with ADM mortality (adjusted rate ratio per year of immunosuppression 1.15, 95% CI 1.10-1.20) but became non-significant after further adjusting for the latest CD4 cell count (rate ratio per year of immunosuppression 1.02, 95% CI 0.93-1.11).

Similar analyses were conducted for nADM mortality (Table 3), with an increased risk of nADM mortality in those with lower CD4 cell counts and those who were older but a lower risk in more recent calendar years. Mortality from nADM was higher in current and prior smokers and in those with active hepatitis B virus infection. Furthermore, there was a strong relationship with cumulative exposure to cART, with those not exposed to cART having a risk of nADM mortality that was 62% lower than that among individuals exposed for less than 4 years, and those with at least 4 years of exposure having a 76% increased risk compared with those exposed for less than 4 years. Adjustment for the nadir CD4 cell count instead of the latest CD4 cell count led to similar conclusions, with a weaker association with the nadir CD4 cell count. However, among patients who had received cART, there was no independent association between the nadir CD4 cell count and nADM mortality (adjusted rate ratio 1.10, 95% CI 0.97-1.24) after adjusting for the latest CD4 cell count (adjusted rate ratio 0.56, 95% CI 0.50-0.63). Similarly, a significant relationship with the duration of immunosuppression (1.12 per year, 95% CI 1.08-1.16) in a model that adjusted for the other identified risk factors was removed after adjusting for the latest CD4 cell count.

Finally, the list of non-AIDS-related malignancies was modified to remove malignancies associated with specific risk factors, and analyses were repeated to determine whether the relationships varied (Table 4). After exclusion of lung cancers, the relationship between nADM mortality and smoking status was weakened whereas that with active HBV infection disappeared after excluding cases of hepatocellular cancer. In contrast, the relationship between the latest CD4 cell count and nADM mortality remained after excluding either anal cancers or Hodgkin's lymphoma (Table 4), and the relationship remained similar whether nADMs with an underlying viral cause (anal cancers, Hodgkin's lymphoma and liver cancers: adjusted rate ratio per two-fold higher 0.58, 95% CI 0.50-0.66) or no underlying viral cause (all other nADM 0.63, 95% CI 0.58-0.69) were considered.

## Discussion

In this large prospective study, we found that the latest CD4 cell count is strongly associated with the risk of death from both ADM and nADM. This finding has been confirmed by a recently published meta analysis on the incidence of cancers in HIV/AIDS and transplant recipients, which revealed the importance of immunosuppression [16].

Non-AIDS events have become an important cause of mortality [1,2] as individuals with HIV infection survive to older ages and have started to suffer from similar age-related diseases to the HIV-uninfected population.

The coding systems currently used to classify non-AIDS causes of death among HIV-uninfected individuals do not adequately capture all causes in HIV-infected individuals. The CoDe system provides a standardized approach for collecting data on and reviewing causes of death in HIV-infected individuals. The D:A:D study was instrumental in initiating and implementing this system, and all deaths reported to D:A:D are now reported using this tool [14].

Not surprisingly, given the high uptake of cART, we observed a higher rate of death from nADM than from ADM. Lung cancer is the most common fatal nADM in our study, concordant with the high prevalence of smoking among individuals in D:A:D and the HIV-infected population [17-19].

We have previously reported a close correlation between the CD4 cell count and non-AIDS-related deaths [15,20]. Here, we extend these analyses to deaths from nADM; our results are consistent with reports from a population-based study of HIV-infected individuals in New York City [8]. An important finding from our analyses is that nADM mortality was higher than ADM mortality in all patients other than those with very low (<50 cells/ $\mu$ l) CD4 cell counts. Interestingly, our analyses suggested that mortality rates from nADM appear to peak in those with a CD4 cell count in the range 50-199 cells/ $\mu$ l. Unfortunately, we do not have enough evidence to say whether this finding reflects a genuine reduction in risk of fatal nADM in the lowest CD4 strata or is simply a consequence of random variability or the more aggressive nature of other diseases that are more common in those with the lowest CD4 cell counts or both.

Age is also a strong predictor of death from malignancies, suggesting that, at similar CD4 cell counts, older patients are at greater risk of dying from malignancy. This may be a consequence of the higher incidence of cancers in older individuals, as well as an increased likelihood of death in older individuals, irrespective of the cause. However, this finding may also reflect reduced immune system activity in the elderly that is not fully captured in our models by the CD4 cell count [21,22]. Interestingly, the HIV RNA level was only weakly associated with ADM mortality and was not independently associated with nADM mortality. Correlations between death from ADM and nADM with CD4 cell counts have also been observed in other

cohort studies [23], and a recent report has suggested that incomplete viral suppression during HAART is a strong predictor of NHL [24].

It is heartening that the risk of dying from either ADM or nADM has decreased in more recent calendar years. Given that cancer-screening procedures have not changed greatly, this decreased incidence might be the result of more effective preventive measures, improved management of malignancies when they occur or a delayed effect of cART due to the long incubation periods of some malignancies. An increasing proportion of HIV-infected individuals in D:A:D have stopped smoking in more recent years [25], but the decline in nADM mortality remained significant after adjusting for smoking status. Although other reports have described an increased incidence of nADM in more recent years, these studies generally included individuals followed both before and after cART introduction; thus, these findings may reflect the reduction in AIDS-related mortality in the cARTera, which may leave the population of HIV-infected individuals at risk of non-AIDS events [26,27].

Surprisingly, nADM mortality was related to cART exposure, whereas a weak association with ADM mortality disappeared after adjustment for other factors. These findings might simply reflect the fact that individuals taking effective cART are less likely to die from ADM and, as a result, may be more likely to die from nADM. However, our estimates of mortality from nADM should not be affected by this 'competing risk', unless the underlying risk factor profile of patients has also changed for the worse. If anything, the risk factor profile of these patients (who are all cART-treated with higher CD4 cell counts) would suggest that the risk of nADM mortality should be lower in this group. Furthermore, this potential bias should also apply to other non-AIDS-related causes of death, but previous analyses [15] have not identified such a relationship. A more likely explanation is that after diagnosis of a nADM, cART may be started quickly to enhance the immune system in preparation for the detrimental effects of antineoplastic drugs. In contrast, patients dying from ADM may be more likely to have stopped or never received cART (in fact, the results shown in Table 1 would support this explanation). Finally, we cannot rule out the possibility that our results may reflect a genuine adverse effect of long-term cART exposure - some antiretrovirals, particularly nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NRTI), may be carcinogenic with prolonged exposure, and some NRTIs may have inhibitory effects on DNA-polymerase beta [28,29].

As expected from other reports [2,17], smoking was a strong risk factor for deaths from lung cancer. After exclusion of lung cancer from the definition of nADM, the relationship between smoking status and nADM mortality was weakened. As lung cancer is the most frequent nADM leading to death in HIV-infected individuals, preventive campaigns to reduce smoking targeted toward the HIV population are required. In a similar way, the association between active HBV infection and nADM mortality was removed after exclusion of liver cancers from the nADM definition. Campaigns to increase uptake of HBV vaccination among HIV-infected individuals and adequate treatment for chronic hepatitis B are needed, as the incidence of fatal liver cancer is increased among HIV-infected individuals [29], and liver disease now represents a major cause of death in these individuals [4,15]. Contrary to expectations, we did not find any association between hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection and nADM mortality; previous findings from the D:A:D study [15] have shown that the cause of death in HCV-coinfected patients is often decompensated cirrhosis rather than hepatocellular carcinoma [30]. Thus, though HCV infection may be a risk factor for the development of liver cancer, it may have a less important role as a prognostic marker for outcome.

An increased incidence of anal cancers in HIV-infected individuals has been reported, mainly associated with infection with high-risk subtypes of human papillomavirus, longer duration of HIV infection and severe immunosuppression [31,32]. However, even after removing anal cancers from our definition of nADM, or other cancers known to be related to

immunosuppression, the relationship between nADM mortality and the latest CD4 cell count remained evident, confirming the impact of severe immunodepression on the risk of death from nADM.

The present study has the strengths of its large size, broad geographical representation and rigorous coding of causes of death. Nonetheless, it has some limitations. We do not collect information on non-fatal malignancies; our analyses are thus restricted to fatal events. Furthermore, factors associated with death from a malignancy may be risk factors either because they help to induce the disease or accelerate its course or both, that is, lower CD4 cell count may have increased risk of the event or of event-related death. As a general 'rule-of-thumb', it is usually recommended that to avoid the possibility of model overfitting, there should be at least 10 endpoints for each covariate considered. Our final multivariable models therefore included a large number of covariates relative to the number of endpoints witnessed. However, our findings surrounding most of the covariates considered were as expected from the published literature. Furthermore, our findings relating to the latest CD4 cell count were relatively unchanged between the univariable and multivariable models, suggesting that this finding was unlikely to be a consequence of an overfitted model. Finally, these results, consisting of a cohort of patients in Europe, United States and Australia should not be generalized to second and third world countries.

In conclusion, we found that the severity of immunosuppression is predictive of the risk of dying from a malignancy. Thus, improvements to patients' immune systems following the use of cART may be expected to have a positive impact on the risk of death from nADM, underlining the importance of HIV treatment strategies that aim to prevent immunodeficiency.

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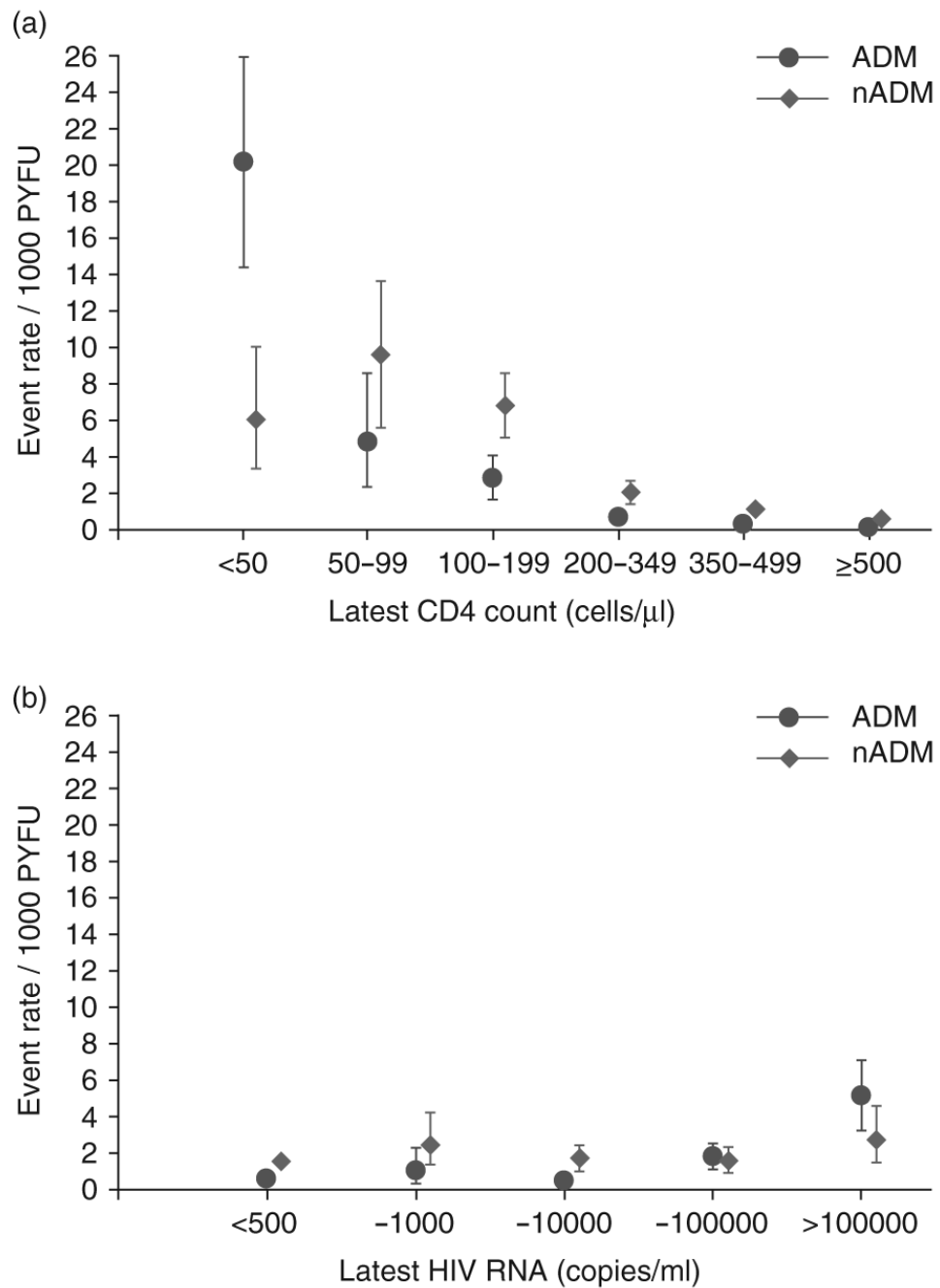
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**Fig. 1.** Rates of mortality from AIDS-defining malignancies (ADM) and non-AIDS-defining malignancies (nADM) (with 95% CI) stratified by (a) latest CD4 cell count and (b) latest HIV RNA. ADM, AIDS-defining malignancies; PYFU, personyears of follow-up.

**Table 1**  
**Characteristics of patients dying from AIDS-defining malignancies (ADM) and non-AIDS-defining malignancies (nADM)**

	Death due to			Patients remaining alive
	ADM	nADM	Other causes	
N	112	193	1328	21 804
Men [n (%)]	99 (88.4)	163 (84.5)	1049 (79.0)	16 477 (75.6)
Risk group				
Homosexual	68 (60.7)	104 (53.9)	479 (36.1)	9936 (45.6)
IDU	13 (11.6)	38 (19.7)	474 (35.7)	4184 (19.2)
Heterosexual	16 (14.3)	35 (18.1)	204 (15.4)	5814 (26.7)
Other/not known	15 (13.4)	16 (8.3)	171 (12.9)	1870 (8.6)
Race [n (%)]				
White	50 (44.6)	90 (46.6)	674 (50.8)	10 316 (47.3)
Black	9 (8.0)	17 (8.8)	183 (13.8)	2204 (10.1)
Other	6 (5.4)	2 (1.0)	32 (2.4)	708 (3.3)
Not known	47 (42.0)	84 (43.5)	439 (33.1)	8576 (39.3)
Age at death or at last follow-up (years)	43 (23-67)	52 (32-79)	44 (22-85)	43 (19-93)
Prior (non-malignancy) AIDS event	90 (80.4)	95 (49.2)	700 (52.7)	5709 (26.2)
Nadir CD4 cell count (cells/ $\mu$ l)	30 (0-445)	87 (0-581)	70 (0-1150)	184 (0-2013)
Peak HIV RNA (log <sub>10</sub> copies/ml)	5.4 (1.7-6.9)	5.0 (1.7-6.8)	5.3 (1.7-7.0)	4.9 (1.7-7.9)
Cumulative duration of immunosuppression (years)	2.6 (0-9.7)	1.4 (0-12.8)	1.5 (0-15.3)	0.1 (0-16.9)
Exposure to cART [n (%)]				
Never received cART	8 (7.1)	6 (3.1)	136 (10.2)	2283 (10.5)
Receiving cART at time of death <sup>d</sup>	53 (47.3)	118 (61.1)	666 (50.2)	15 090 (69.3)
Previous exposure but not receiving at time of death <sup>d</sup>	51 (45.5)	69 (35.8)	526 (39.6)	4431 (20.3)
Cumulative exposure to cART at time of death (years) <sup>d,a,b</sup>	3.9 (0.1-9.6)	4.5 (0.0-8.8)	3.6 (0.0-9.2)	6.0 (0.0-14.0)
Latest CD4 cell count (cells/ $\mu$ l) [median (range)]				
All patients	75 (0-671)	211 (1-1183)	182 (0-2484)	479 (0-2864)
Receiving cART at time of death <sup>d</sup>	107 (1-671)	222 (1-1183)	215 (0-1466)	480 (0-2670)
Not receiving cART at time of death <sup>d</sup>	39 (0-620)	173 (3-963)	160 (0-2484)	473 (0-2864)
Latest HIV RNA (log <sub>10</sub> copies/ml)				

	Death due to			Patients remaining alive
	ADM	nADM	Other causes	
All patients	3.8 (1.7-6.3)	2.3 (1.7-6.0)	3.7 (1.7-6.9)	1.7 (1.7-7.9)
Receiving cART at time of death	2.8 (1.7-6.3)	1.9 (1.7-5.7)	2.7 (1.7-6.9)	1.7 (1.7-6.9)
Not receiving cART at time of death	4.6 (1.7-5.9)	2.7 (1.7-6.0)	4.3 (1.7-6.8)	3.2 (1.7-7.9)

cART, Combination antiretroviral therapy; IDU, injection drug users.

<sup>a</sup> Classified at last clinic visit for those remaining alive.

<sup>b</sup> Among those ever exposed to cART.

**Table 2**  
**Results from unadjusted and adjusted analyses of factors associated with mortality due to AIDS-defining malignancies**

	Unadjusted			Adjusted <sup>a</sup>		
	Rate ratio	95% CI	P value	Rate ratio	95% CI	P value
Latest CD4 cell count (per log <sub>2</sub> higher)	0.51	0.48-0.54	0.0001	0.53	0.48-0.59	0.0001
Latest HIV RNA <10 000 copies/ml	4.33	2.97-6.30	0.0001	0.90	0.52-1.53	0.69
Sex/risk						
Male homosexual	1			1		
Male heterosexual	0.70	0.38-1.30		0.52	0.27-0.99	
Female heterosexual	0.19	0.07-0.51		0.25	0.09-0.71	
Male IDU	0.45	0.22-0.90		0.38	0.18-0.79	
Female IDU	0.44	0.16-1.20		0.51	0.18-1.44	
Men/women/other/not known	1.19	0.68-2.08	0.0001	0.70	0.39-1.28	0.006
Age (per 5 years older)	1.09	0.99-1.19	0.09	1.14	1.03-1.26	0.02
Previous AIDS <sup>b</sup>	7.16	4.81-10.66	0.0001	2.85	1.82-4.47	0.0001
Any exposure to cART	1.96	0.96-4.03	0.07	1.21	0.51-2.86	0.65
Hepatitis B status						
Negative	1			1		
Positive - active	1.90	1.07-3.40		1.71	0.94-3.09	
Positive - inactive	0.54	0.30-0.99		0.65	0.32-1.31	
Vaccinated	0.58	0.14-2.37		0.86	0.20-3.69	
Not known	0.86	0.52-1.44	0.02	0.95	0.50-1.79	0.24
Calendar year						
1999-2001	1			1		
2002	0.72	0.45-1.15		0.84	0.52-1.36	
2003	0.43	0.25-0.77		0.48	0.26-0.86	
2004/2005	0.34	0.18-0.63	0.0003	0.41	0.22-0.78	0.005

cART, combination antiretroviral therapy; CI, confidence interval; IDU, injecting drug user.

<sup>a</sup> Adjusted for all the variables listed in the model and for cohort.

<sup>b</sup> Excludes AIDS malignancies.



**Table 3**  
**Results from unadjusted and adjusted analyses of factors associated with mortality due to non-AIDS-defining malignancies**

	Unadjusted			Adjusted <sup>d</sup>		
	Rate ratio	95% CI	P value	Rate ratio	95% CI	P value
Latest CD4 cell count (per log <sub>2</sub> higher)	0.64	0.60-0.68	0.0001	0.61	0.57-0.66	0.0001
Sex/risk group						
Male homosexual	1			1		
Male heterosexual	0.80	0.50-1.28		0.72	0.44-1.19	
Female heterosexual	0.42	0.24-0.74		0.86	0.48-1.55	
Male IDU	0.88	0.58-1.35		1.38	0.87-2.21	
Female IDU	0.71	0.37-1.37		1.58	0.80-3.12	
Men/women/other/not known	0.77	0.45-1.33	0.04	0.57	0.32-1.01	0.07
Age (per 5 years older)	1.48	1.39-1.57	0.0001	1.60	1.49-1.72	0.0001
Previous AIDS <sup>b</sup>	2.42	1.81-3.23	0.0001	1.30	0.95-1.78	0.10
Smoking status						
Current smoker	1.81	1.21-2.70		2.89	1.86-4.48	
Ex-smoker	1.88	1.17-3.04		2.01	1.22-3.32	
Never smoked	1			1		
Not known	1.39	0.86-2.26	0.01	1.16	0.61-2.22	0.0001
Exposure to cART						
None	0.23	0.09-0.57		0.38	0.15-0.95	
<4 years	1			1		
≥4 years	1.62	1.20-2.18	0.0001	1.76	1.25-2.47	0.0001
Hepatitis B status						
Negative	1			1		
Positive - active	2.51	1.60-3.92		1.81	1.14-2.88	
Positive - inactive	1.17	0.80-1.72		0.93	0.59-1.47	
Vaccinated	0.43	0.11-1.74		0.46	0.11-1.92	
Not known	1.31	0.89-1.91	0.002	0.60	0.36-1.00	0.004
Calendar year						
1999-2001	1			1		
2002	0.90	0.62-1.31		0.71	0.49-1.05	

	Unadjusted			Adjusted <sup>a</sup>		
	Rate ratio	95% CI	P value	Rate ratio	95% CI	P value
2003	0.93	0.64-1.34		0.61	0.41-0.90	
2004/2005	0.52	0.33-0.82	0.02	0.30	0.19-0.48	0.0001

ADM, AIDS-defining malignancy; cART, combination antiretroviral therapy; CI, confidence interval; IDU, injecting drug user.

<sup>a</sup> Adjusted for all the variables listed in the table and for cohort.

<sup>b</sup> Excluding AIDS malignancies.

Table 4

**Relationship between mortality due to non-AIDS-defining malignancies and specific risk factors after excluding cancers already known to be associated with these risk factors**

	Including all nADM <sup>d</sup>			Excluding nADMs associated with risk factor		
	Rate ratio	95% CI	P value	Rate ratio	95% CI	P value
Relationship with smoking status after excluding lung cancers						
Current smoker	2.89	1.86-4.48		1.70	1.03-2.81	
Ex-smoker	2.01	1.22-3.32		1.38	0.78-2.45	
Never smoked	1			1		
Not known	1.16	0.61-2.22	0.0001	0.72	0.34-1.54	0.06
Relationship with hepatitis B status after excluding hepatocellular carcinomas						
Negative	1			1		
Positive - active	1.81	1.14-2.88		1.28	0.74-2.20	
Positive - inactive	0.93	0.59-1.47		1.10	0.68-1.76	
Vaccinated	0.46	0.11-1.92		0.55	0.13-2.28	
Not known	0.60	0.36-1.00	0.004	0.51	0.29-0.91	0.04
Relationship with latest CD4 cell count after excluding anal cancers						
Latest CD4 cell count (per log <sub>2</sub> higher)	0.61	0.57-0.66	0.0001	0.62	0.57-0.68	0.0001
Relationship with latest CD4 cell count after excluding Hodgkin's lymphoma						
Latest CD4 cell count (per log <sub>2</sub> higher)	0.61	0.57-0.66	0.0001	0.62	0.57-0.67	0.0001

nADM, non-AIDS-defining malignancy.

<sup>d</sup>Results summarized from right-hand column of Table 3 and all analyses adjusted for all variables included in Table 3.