

INTRODUCTION

The relationship between chronic lymphocytic thyroiditis (CLT) and papillary thyroid carcinoma (PTC) is controversial since its first description, continuing to be an area of ongoing research.

The objectives of this study was the determination of prevalence of CLT in patients with PTC and evaluation of the clinicopathological differences of PTC in patients with and without CLT.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

A retrospective study of consecutive patients admitted to our hospital for the total thyroidectomy for PTC, between Jan/2009 and Jun/2014. Patients with other types of tumor histopathology and without enough data in the clinical process were excluded. CLT was diagnosed based on histology of the surgical piece.

Statistical analysis: IBM SPSS (v.20) - χ^2 , Fisher exact test, Student's t and Mann-Whitney. Statistical significance: $p < 0.05$.

RESULTS

Graph 1: Prevalence of chronic lymphocytic thyroiditis (CLT)

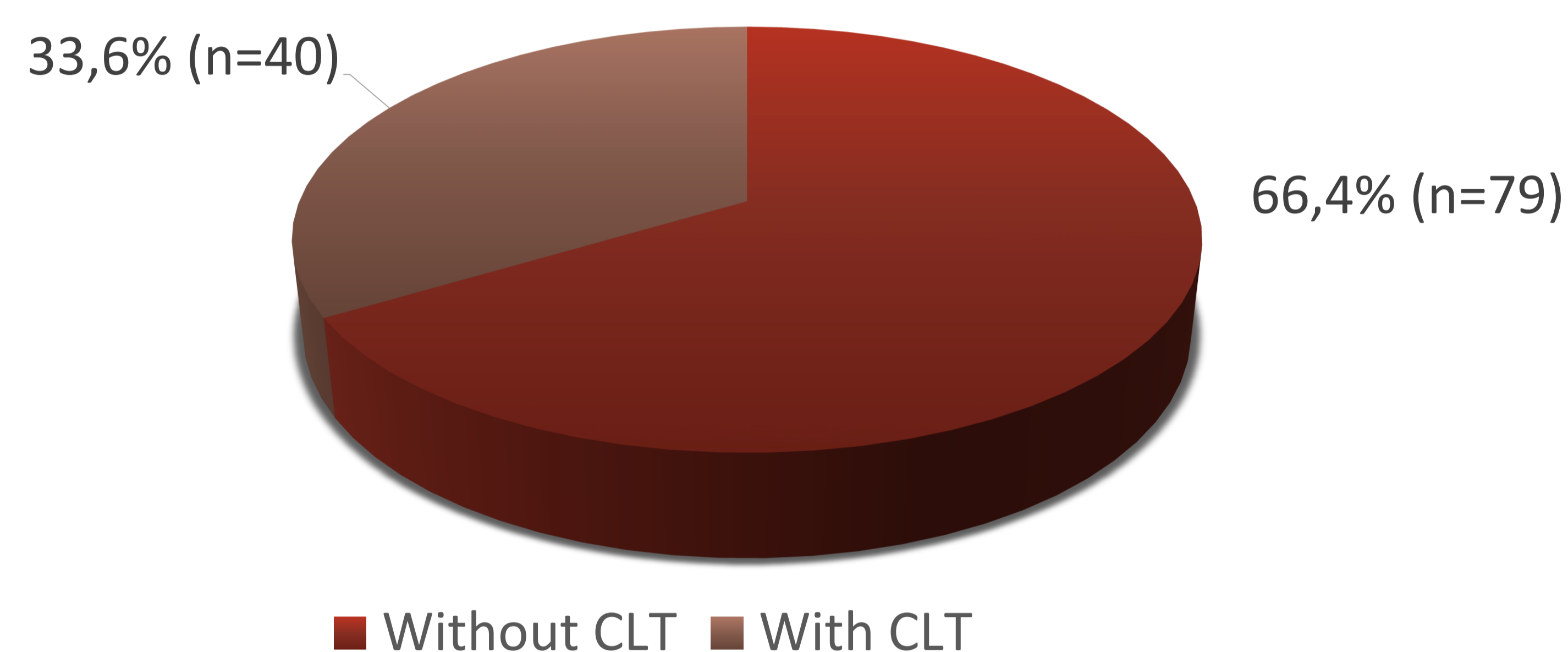


Table 1 – Demographic characteristics of study population (n=119)

Variables	With CLT	Without CLT	All	p value
Age (years) (mean; SD)	45.5 ± 13.3	47.7 ± 14.2	46.9 ± 13.9	0.41
Female sex (n; %)	37.0; 92.5	66.0; 83.5	103.0; 86.6	0.18

CLT: chronic lymphocytic thyroiditis; SD: standard deviation

Table 2 – Clinical and pathological characteristics of papillary thyroid carcinoma (n=119)

Variables	With CLT	Without CLT	All	p value
Tumour size (mm) (median; IQR)	11.0; 7.0	14.0; 11.0	12.0; 9.0	0.055
Multifocality (%)	31.6	35.0	32.8	0.713
Extrathyroidal extension (%)	50.0	62.0	58.0	0.209
Linfatic invasion (%)	35.0	44.3	41.2	0.330
Vascular invasion (%)	15.0	17.7	16.8	0.708
Central lymph nodes metastasis (%)	32.5	40.5	37.8	0.395
Lateral lymph nodes metastasis (%)	5.0	16.5	12.6	0,075
Distance metastasis (%)	0.0	1.3	1.7	1.0

CLT: chronic lymphocytic thyroiditis; IQR: interquartile range

DISCUSSION

In this study, there were no statistically significant differences between groups (with and without CLT) in the different clinical and pathological characteristics of PTC that influence the prognosis of the tumor.

However, there were a statistical trend for smaller tumor size in patients with CLT as well as lower lateral cervical lymph node involvement, as suggested by some studies in the literature.

REFERENCES

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