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ABSTRACTS

POSTER

Outcome of treatment of non-visceral soft tissue sarcoma of the pelvis

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Objectives: The aim is to determine the outcome and prognostic factors for survival and local recurrence in soft tissue sarcomas of the pelvis.

Materials: We investigated 99 consecutive patients with newly diagnosed soft tissue sarcomas involving the pelvic region.

Results: Surgical treatment was excision in 93 patients and hindquarter amputation in 6 patients. Overall survival in patients was 57% at 5 years. Local recurrence occurred in 22%. The risk of inadequate surgical margins in patients with tumours in intrapelvis was 50% compared to 18% for those with tumours in extrapelvis. The significant predictors of local recurrence were inadequate margins and location of the tumour in intrapelvis. Significant predictors of survival included metastases at presentation, tumour grade and depth. The cumulative 5 year survival for patients with deep high grade tumours, deep low grade tumours, superficial high grade and superficial low grade tumours were 45%, 74%, 63% and 100% respectively ($p=0.01$). Development of local recurrence adversely influenced development of metastases and overall survival. Histological grade and development of local recurrence were the most important determinant of survival on multivariate analysis.

Conclusion: The treatment of patients with pelvic soft tissue sarcoma is challenging with high risk of inadequate margins and local recurrence in those with tumours located within the pelvic brim. Patients who develop local recurrence have an extremely poor prognosis. Patients with high grade and inadequate surgical margins represent a particular group with very high risk of metastases and death even with radiotherapy and perhaps should be considered for other adjuvant treatment.