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ABSTRACTS – POSTERS

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How should adults with pleomorphic rhabdomyosarcoma (RMS) be treated?

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Aims

To identify consensus between experts on treatment of a patient with RMS in adults and to identify supporting evidence for guidance.

Methods

Sarcoma specialists (10 from the UK, 13 from mainland Europe and the US) were sent an e-mail requesting advice about further management of a 37 year old woman after resection from the thigh of a 7 cm pleomorphic RMS. She had a normal chest CT. Comments were invited about further staging and indications for chemotherapy and for radiotherapy. Responses were categorised and literature was searched for publications relevant to the categories.

Results

Seventeen responses were received (8 from the UK, 9 from elsewhere). Nine (52%) recommended staging in addition to chest CT, including molecular characterisation, CT abdomen and pelvis, bone marrow biopsy and PET scanning. Thirteen (76%) recommended adjuvant chemotherapy but with no consistency in regimen. Radiotherapy was advised by 11 (64%). There appeared to be variation between the UK and other oncologists, particularly in the use of chemotherapy.

Conclusion

We conclude that (i) RMS occurring in adults may be managed in widely different ways, (ii) the importance of PET-CT and identification of translocations should be further evaluated (iii) more evidence is required to develop treatment strategies for adult RMS, (iv) consensus guidance on treatment of RMS occurring in adults may be valuable.