

# Symptom Duration prior to Diagnosis in ESFT

Morag Whyte

BSG Conference February 2007

# Questions

- Symptom duration prior to diagnosis?
- What symptoms?
- Time to Diagnosis from 1<sup>st</sup> Health Care visit?
- No and type of visits?
- Tumour Volume (TV) at diagnosis?
- Metastatic Disease at presentation?
- Outcome?

# Study

- Retrospective review patients presenting to RHSC, Glasgow
- July 2001-August 2006
- Histological diagnosis ES
- 23 cases identified, 12 cases male
- Age range 13mths-16yrs 1mth, median 12yrs 2mths

# Location of Primary Tumour

- Paraspinal - 5
- Pelvic – 4 (3M)
- Tibia - 3
- Chest wall – 3 (1M)
- Fibula – 2
- Femur – 2
- Other sites – 4 (1M)
- Metastatic disease present in 5 cases

# Symptom Duration

- Obtained by parent/patient recall as documented in case notes
- Duration prior to histological diagnosis
- Range 8 days- 24 mths
- Median duration 3 mths
- Mean duration 5.3 mths

# 1<sup>st</sup> Health Visit

- Patient recall in most cases (GP)
- GP or A+E
- Time from visit to diagnosis
- Range – at diagnosis (6)- 9mths
- Median -2mths/4mths
- Mean - 3.13mths/4.23mths

# No. and Type of Visit

- Probable underestimate
- Minimum visit = 1
- Range 1-11
- Median 3 visits (4)
- Mean 3.52 (4.4)
- GP/A+E(several)/Orthopaedics(6)
- Urology/General Paediatrics/Neurology/Physio/Chiropractor/  
Sports Medicine Physician/Sports Physio

# Symptom Profile

- Pain+/-swelling 21
- Pain 15
- Swelling 4
- Limp 1
- Torticollis 1
- Voice change 1
- SOB 1
- 3 cases anorexia/wt loss

# Tumour Volume

- Ascertained in 21 cases
- 19 by MRI, 2 by CT scanning
- Range 8.3ml-803ml
- Median 192ml
- Mean 246ml
- 9 primary tumours >200ml at diagnosis

# Large Volume tumours

- Range 235-803 ml
- Symptom duration 6wks-1yr
- Median 5(3) mths, Mean 6.77(5.3) mths
- 3/9 diagnosed at presentation
- TTD from 1<sup>st</sup> HV 0-9mths, No visits 1-6
- 2 cases metastatic at diagnosis
- 8 alive off treatment July 02-Dec 06
- 1 still on treatment

# Metastatic Disease

- 5 cases
- 3 pelvic primaries, 1 chest wall, 1 thigh
- TV in 4: 110,137,250,308ml
- Symptom duration 3-7mths, median 5(3)mths, mean 4.8(5.3)mths
- 1 case diagnosed at presentation
- TTD 1<sup>st</sup> HV 0-6 mths, No visits 1-6
- 1 DOD, 1 on treatment
- 3 OT July 02-May 05

# Conclusions

- 6/23 (26%) diagnosed at 1<sup>st</sup> presentation
- 17/23 had protracted course
- TTD 1<sup>st</sup> HV 4/4.23 months
- No visits 4/4.4
- ?Symptom duration longer in the group with TV>200ml but TTD from 1<sup>st</sup> HV 1.5/3.5mths
- Similar symptom duration and TTD from 1<sup>st</sup> HV in metastatic group compared to whole group
- 20 survivors but short follow-up

# Further Questions

- What is an acceptable symptom duration?
- What is acceptable professional delay?
- Does it matter?
- What are the barriers to early diagnosis?
- How to increase efficiency?

# Acknowledgments

- Dr. Dermot Murphy, RHSC Glasgow
- Dr. Jairam Sastry, RHSC Glasgow
- Mr. Roderick Duncan, RHSC Glasgow
- Medical Records Staff, RHSC Glasgow