Radiation Therapy in Rhabdomyosarcoma



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Anatomy

| Head & Neck | 39 % |
|-------------------|-------------|
| Parameningeal | 25 % |
| Non Parameningeal | 07% |
| Orbit | 09 % |
| Genitourinary | 31% |
| Extremity | 13% |
| Retroperitoneum | 07% |
| Trunk | 05% |
| Other Sites | 03% |

Epidemiology

Annual incidence (West): 4.4 per 1 million whites 1.3 per 1 million blacks

Male: Female ratio - 1.5: 1.0



Risk Factors

- Environmental exposures: Paternal cigarette use, X-ray exposure, Maternal drug use
- Associated with disorders in development: CNS, GU, GI, CVS anomalies
- Congenital disorders: Congenital pulmonary cysts Gorlin basal cell nevus syndrome Neurofibromatosis
- The most frequently occurring childhood cancer in families: Li-Fraumeni syndrome Neurofibromatosis type 1 Beckwith-Wiedemann syndrome

Natural History

- Association of site of primary, age at diagnosis and tumor histology. Urinary bladder/ vagina -- Primarily infants -- Embryonal / Botryoid Trunk/ Extremity -- Adolescents – Alveolar/ Undifferentiated Head & Neck -- throughout childhood -- Embryonal
- Locally invasive/ pseudo-capsule
- Local spread: Fascial/ muscle planes
- Lymphatic extension (15%)

| Paratesticular, extremity, and truncal tumors: | 25% |
|---|-----|
| Head & Neck: | 15% |
| Orbit: | <5% |
| Influenced by Site/ Size/ Invasiveness/ Histology | |

 Hematogenous dissemination (15-20%)
 Sites of Met: Lung, Bone Marrow, Bone, Pleural effusion, Ascites Higher incidence from Truncal & Head/ Neck sites Alveolar (25%), Embryonal (13%)

Clinical Features

• Primary:

Asymptomatic mass Site: Orbit - Proptosis, Ophthalmoplegia. Parameningeal - Nasal, aural, sinus obstruction Cranial nerve palsy, headache Genitourinary - Hematuria, urinary obstruction, constipation

• Lymphatic:

Regional & distant nodal disease

• Hematogenous:

Lung/ Pleural effusion – Dyspnoea, cough, chest pain Bone Marrow – Bone pain, weakness, low counts Bone – Pain, fracture Ascites – Abd. distension, discomfort

Diagnostic Workup

| All sites | History |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| | Physical Exam |
| Lab Investigations | Haemogram |
| | • LFT |
| | • RFT |
| | Urine Analysis |
| Bone Marrow Aspirate & Biopsy | All Patients |
| Imaging | CECT Scan - Primary & Pulmonary Met |
| | MRI Scan - Primary |
| | PET CT Scan - Primary & Met |
| Head & Neck | MRI Scan - Primary |
| | CSF Exam - Parameningeal |
| Genitourinary | MRI Scan - Primary |
| | Cystoscopy |
| | Pelvic EUA - If required |
| Extremity/ Trunk | MRI Scan/ CECT |

Role of PET -CT

Pediatr Blood Cancer

Comparison of PET-CT and Conventional Imaging in Staging Pediatric Rhabdomyosarcoma

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Background. Over the past decade, PET–CT has been used to assess rhabdomyosarcoma (RMS) in children. However, the role of PET–CT in staging RMS is unknown. **Procedure.** Thirty subjects with RMS, median age 7.3 years, underwent PET–CT before therapy. PET–CTs and conventional imaging (CI) were independently reviewed by two radiologists and two nuclear medicine physicians to determine the presence of metastases. Accuracy, sensitivity, and specificity of PET–CT for detecting metastases were compared to CI using biopsy and clinical follow-up as reference standards. Maximum standardized uptake values (SUV_{max}) of primary tumors, lymph nodes, and pulmonary nodules were measured. **Results.** Primary tumors had an average SUV_{max} of 7.2 (range, 2.5–19.2). Accuracy rates for 17 subjects with nodal disease were 95% for PET–CT and 49% for CI. PET–CT had 94% sensitivity and 100%

specificity for nodal disease. Of seven pulmonary nodules detected by CI, three were not identified by PET–CT, two were indeterminate, and one was malignant with a SUV_{max} (3.4) > twice that of benign nodules. Two subjects had bone disease; both were identified by PET–CT but only one by CI. Four subjects had bone marrow disease, two had positive PET–CTs but none had positive CI. Two subjects had soft tissue metastases detected by PET–CT but not CI. *Conclusions.* PET–CT performed better than CI in identifying nodal, bone, bone marrow, and soft tissue disease in children with RMS. CI remains essential for detection of pulmonary nodules. We recommend PET–CT for staging of children with RMS. CI with Tc^{99m} bone scan can be eliminated. Pediatr Blood Cancer © 2012 Wiley Periodicals, Inc.

Key words: conventional imaging; diagnosis; PET–CT; rhabdomyosarcoma; staging

Conventional Imaging (CI) = CT Chest + CT/MRI Primary + Bone Scan

PET Ct Scan: Better detection of Nodes/ Bone Marrow/ Bone/ Soft Tissue

PET-CT in Prognostication

Contribution of PET/CT to Prediction of Outcome in Children and Young Adults with Rhabdomyosarcoma

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J Nucl Med 2011; 52:1535-1540

Significantly shorter overall survival in primary tumors visually rated as highly metabolically active or with a ratio of SUV(max) to SUV of the liver above 4.6

Metabolically active lymph node and distant site involvement was indicative of significantly lower survival rates

Multivariate Cox regression analysis: impact of SUV(max) of primary tumor on outcome failed to attain significance, although PET performed better than some of the prognostic factors (P = 0.081)

Pathologic Classification

INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFICATION OF RHABDOMYOSARCOMA

| 5 Yr. Survival 88 – 95% |
|----------------------------|
| |
| 80 – 85% |
| |
| 60 – 65% |
| |
| |
| |
| 50 – 55% |
| |

Pathology

Small round blue cell tumors with cross striations/ characteristic Rhabdomyoblast IHC: Actin, Myosin, Desmin, Myo-D 1

EMBRYONAL



ALVEOLAR



ARMS

80% harbor translocations resulting in PAX 3/FOXO or PAX 7/FOXO fusion gene

Fusion negative ARMS (20%) are similar to patients with ERMS

ERMS

LOH at 11p15 locus Better prognosis than ARMS

Staging & Prognostication

- A. Clinical group Surgicopathologic staging developed by IRSG in 1972
 - B. TNM System
 - A. Takes into account tumor size & lymph node burden
 - B. Site of disease included
 - C. Incorporated IRS-IV onwards

Intergroup Rhabdomyosarcoma Study Clinical Grouping

| Clinical Group | | Extent of disease/ Surgical Resection | | | |
|------------------------|---|--|--|--|--|
| I | А | _ocalized tumor, confined to site of origin, completely resected | | | |
| (Localized) | В | _ocalized tumor, infiltrating beyond site of origin, completely resected | | | |
| | А | ocalized tumor, gross total resection, but with microscopic residual disease | | | |
| II (GTR) | В | ocally extensive tumor (spread to regional lymph nodes), completely esected | | | |
| (011) | С | Locally extensive tumor (spread to regional lymph nodes), gross total resection, but microscopic residual disease | | | |
| | А | Localized or locally extensive tumor, gross residual disease after biopsy only | | | |
| (Incomplete resection) | В | Localized or locally extensive tumor, gross residual disease after major resection (≥50 percent debulking) | | | |
| IV (Metastatic) | | Any size primary tumor, with or without regional lymph node involvement, with distant metastases, irrespective of surgical approach to primary tumor | | | |

Prognostic Factors

Site of Disease



Staging

| Stage | Sites | Tumour stage invasiveness | т | Ν | м |
|-------|--|----------------------------------|--------|----------------------------------|----------------|
| 1 | Orbit Head & Neck (Non PM) GU (Non Bladder/ Prostate) Biliary tract | T ₁ or T ₂ | a or b | Any N | M _o |
| 2 | Bladder/prostate Extremity H&N (Para-meningeal) | T ₁ or T ₂ | a | N ₀ or N _x | M _o |
| 2 | Bladder/prostate Extremity | T ₁ or T ₂ | a | N1 | M ₀ |
| J | Cranial Para-meningeal | | b | Any N | |
| 4 | All | $T_1 \text{ or } T_2$ | a or b | N ₀ or N ₁ | M ₁ |

T1: Confined to anatomic site

T2: Extension

a: ≤5 cm in diameter

b: >5 cm in diameter

N0: Not clinically involved

N1: Clinically involved

NX: Clinical status unknown

M0: No distant metastases M1: Distant metastases present

Children vs Adults

| | Adults | Children |
|-----------|--|----------------|
| Histology | Pleomorphic | Emryonal |
| Site | Trunk & extremities | HN, urogenital |
| Prognosis | Worse Unfavorable location Invasive tumors Propensity for loco- regional & distant spread Higher rates of metastases | |



Risk Stratification



Risk Stratification



General Management



Optimal Sequence & Intensity

Disease Control, Organ & Function Preservation, Minimize Morbidity

Chemotherapy

- Chemotherapy is necessary in all cases
- Drugs demonstrating response as single-agent measured as a percentage response rate:

| lfosfamide | (86%) |
|------------------|--------------|
| Vincristine | (59%) |
| Cyclophosphamide | (54%) |
| Topotecan | (46%) |
| Mitomycin-C | (36%) |
| Dactinomycin | (24%) |
| Etoposide | (15% to 21%) |
| Irinotecan | (23%) |
| Cisplatin | (15% to 21%) |
| Dacarbazine | (11%) |

• Commonly used combination chemotherapy:

VAC or VAC + doxorubicin (VACA)

VACA + IE - Unfavorable histology/unfavorable site/ extensive tumor burden

Intergroup Rhabdomyosarcoma Study Group

5 year OS

| • | IRS I (1972 - 1978) | 55% |
|---|-----------------------|-----|
| • | IRS II (1978 - 1984) | 63% |
| ٠ | IRS III (1984 - 1991) | 71% |
| • | IRS IV (1991 - 1997) | 71% |
| • | IRS V (1998 - 2005) | |

Chemotherapy

• Initial intensive CTh: Used for pharmacologic debulking, potentially allowing for a more conservative surgical approach or less-aggressive radiation therapy.

IRS I&II .Cancer 1990;66:2072–2081 German COS .Cancer 1992;70:2557–2567 SIOP MMT 89, J Clin Oncol 2005;23:2618–2628

- Response to induction chemotherapy—whether complete, partial, or no response—does not predict ultimate outcome
- CTh alone without Sx/ RT (H&N, pelvis): poor local control.

Med Pediatr Oncol 1991;19:89–95 *SIOP MMT 84 Clin Oncol* 1994;12:516–521,

Omission of radiotherapy in partial responders result in inferior survival.
 Pediatr Blood Cancer 2008;51:593–597

J Clin Oncol 2005;23:2586–2587

- Patients with only microscopic disease after initial resection (group II) require RT
 J Clin Oncol 2004;22:143–149
- No improvement in outcome of high risk disease with High Dose CTh/ TBI + BMT SIOP MMT-98. Eur J Cancer 2010;46:1588–1595.

Surgery

- Ablative Surgery only: 20% long-term survival rate
- Concept of reasonable surgery: Complete removal of tumor + maximal conservation of anatomic structures. E.g.:

Preservation of bladder, bowel, and sexual function in patients with tumors of genitourinary origin

Limb function in patients with extremity tumors

Vision, voice, deglutition, and appearance in patients with head and neck tumors

• Primary surgical excision:

Removal of tumor + 5mm normal tissue(IRS Gp I)-20%Compromised surgical procedures (R1)(IRS Gp II)-20%Unresectable without morbidity(IRS Gp III)-40%Present with metastatic disease(IRS Gp IV)-20%

 Amputation, orbital exenteration, mutilating surgery for H&N, RND etc. reserved for failure of initial therapy

Surgery

Second-look surgery (delayed primary excisions): Useful for converting partial responses after chemotherapy into complete responses – may improve survival.

IRS-V: If second-look surgery might allow a reduction in the amount of radiotherapy that is necessary to provide local tumor control.

Preliminary results: only select primary sites are appropriate for this approach

Second-look surgery to avoid RT: Inferior local control and survival.

AIEOP Study.Pediatr Blood Cancer 2008;51:593–597

Major Clinical Trials

| Intergroup Rhabdomyosarcoma Studies (IRS) | International Society of Pediatric Oncology (SIOP) | Co-operative Weichteilsarkom Studiengruppe Studies (CWS) |
|--|---|---|
| USA | Europe | German |
| IRS I - V COG | RMS - 75 MMT - 84 MMT - 89 | CWS - 81 CWS - 86 CWS - 91 |
| Evaluated efficacy of Chemotherapy & Radiotherapy as a function of surgical stage | To develop strategies to minimize local therapy by using risk adapted intensification of Chemotherapy & salvage pts with local failure | More frequent use of local therapy compared to the MMT studies. Tried to develop strategies to reduce doses of radiation therapy but not eliminate its use |

Radiotherapy

Indications

- Un-resectable primaries at diagnosis (IRV Gp III)
- Microscopic residual disease (IRS Gp II)
- Completely resected alveolar histology or lymph node involvement

Wolden SL et al. Indications for radiotherapy and chemotherapy after complete resection in rhabdomyosarcoma:a report from the Intergroup Rhabdomyosarcoma Studies I to III. J Clin Oncol 1999;17(11):3468-75

Can Radiotherapy be Avoided?

- No direct head to head comparison in IRSG trials (RT vs. No RT)
- Elimination of RT in para-meningeal RMS patients < 3 yrs age in the MMT trials reduced OS from 62% to 44%.

Defachelles AS. Treatment of nonmetastatic cranial parameningeal RMS in children younger than 3 years old: results from SIOP MMT 89 and 95. J Clin Oncol 2009;27(8):1310-5.

• Improved outcomes in Group II disease in IRS-III& IV

Smith LM. Which patients with rhabdomyosarcoma (RMS) and micro-scopic residual tumor (Group II) fail therapy? A report from the Intergroup Rhabdomyosarcoma Study Group (IRSG) [abstract 2273B]. Proc Am Soc Clin Oncol 2000;19:577a

De- Escalating Therapy

Pediatr Blood Cancer 2011;57:76-83

Local Control and Outcome in Children With Localized Vaginal Rhabdomyosarcoma: A Report From the Soft Tissue Sarcoma Committee of the Children's Oncology Group

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RMS Vagina

41 Pts

D9602 & ARST0331

Outcomes after Delaying/ Avoiding RT based on CTh Response & Delayed Surgery

5 Yr FFS (ARST0331): 42%

5 Yr FFS (D9602): 70%

Inferior outcome in ARST0331 attributed to: Avoidance of RT & Low Cumulative Cyclophophamide Dose (4.8g/m2)

RT Timing

INFLUENCE OF RADIATION THERAPY PARAMETERS ON OUTCOME IN CHILDREN TREATED WITH RADIATION THERAPY FOR LOCALIZED PARAMENINGEAL RHABDOMYOSARCOMA IN INTERGROUP RHABDOMYOSARCOMA STUDY GROUP TRIALS II THROUGH IV

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- Early RT within 9 weeks preferable
- Delayed RT feasible without compromising OS in a subset (bladder & prostate)
- Meningeal involvement- RT preferably within 2 weeks (LR increase from 18% to 33%)
- WBRT not necessary

RT Timing

| S.No | RT On Day 0 | RT On Day21 (Wk 3) | RT On Day 62 (Wk 9) |
|------|-------------------------|---|---------------------|
| 1 | Intra-cranial extension | Para-meningeal sites Nasopharynx PNS (maxilla/ethmoid/sphenoid) Middle ear Mastoid Pterygopalatine fossa Infra Temporal Fossa | All others |
| 2 | Skull base erosion | | |
| 3 | Cranial nerve palsy | | |

RT Volumes

- GTV All visible disease prior to starting CTh
- CTV Pre CTh extent + 2 cm margin (except sites like Orbit/ Pelvis/ Thorax etc)
 Surgical sites/ Biopsy tracts
 Clinically suspicious or involved lymph nodes should be included
 Prophylactic lymph node irradiation not necessary
- PTV Pt/ Site/ Institute specific Usually 5mm beyond CTV

 Parameningeal sites (middle ear, paranasal sinuses, nasopharynx, nasal cavity, infratemporal fossa, and parapharyngeal area): Portals should cover the adjacent meninges

IRS III, J Clin Oncol 1995;13:610-630, IRS II-IV, Int J Radiat Oncol Biol Phys 2004;59:1027-1038

• Whole Brain RT not indicated

RT Dose

Traditionally used RT dose:

Microscopic disease - 41.4Gy/ 23#/ 5Wks @ 1.8Gy/ fraction Gross Disease - 50.4Gy/ 28#/ 6Wks @ 1.8Gy/ fraction

Dose reduction:

IRS-V, D9602 - Suggest 45Gy for gross tumor at orbital sites, especially if cyclophosphamide is included in the systemic therapy regimen

Raney R. Results of the Intergroup Rhabdomyosarcoma Study Group D9602 protocol, using vincristine and dactinomycin with or without cyclophosphamide and radiation therapy, for newly diagnosed patients with low-risk embryonal rhabdomyosarcoma: a report from the Soft Tissue Sarcoma Committee of the Children's Oncology Group. J Clin Oncol 2011;29:1312-1318.

Breneman J. Local control with reduced dose radiotherapy for low-risk rhabdomyosarcoma: a report from the Children's Oncology Group D9602 study. Int J Radiat Oncol Biol Phys 2012;83(2): 720-726.

RT Dose Reduction

Local Control With Reduced-Dose Radiotherapy for Low-Risk Rhabdomyosarcoma: A Report From the Children's Oncology Group D9602 Study

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> International Journal of Radiation Oncology biology • physics

| Table 2 Radiotherapy (RT) doses | |
|---|--------------|
| Group | RT dose (Gy) |
| I | No RT |
| IIA | 36 |
| IIB/C | 41.4 |
| III orbit | 45 |
| III nonorbit* | 50.4 |

* These patients were eligible for second-look operation after Week 12 chemotherapy. If tumor was completely resected, radiotherapy was reduced to 36 Gy for lymph-node negative tumors, and 41.4 Gy was given for lymph-node positive tumors. Girls with vaginal tumors received RT only if there was gross or microscopic tumor after chemotherapy with or without second-look operation.

| Table 4 | Five-year | cumulative | local | control | for | Group | IIA: |
|-----------|-------------|------------|-------|---------|-----|-------|------|
| favorable | site tumors | 5 | | | | | |

| | RT dose | | Local failure |
|--------------------|---------|--------------|---------------|
| Protocol | (Gy) | Chemotherapy | rate (%) |
| D9602 $(n = 62)$ | 36 | VA | 15* |
| IRS III $(n = 52)$ | 41.4 | VA | 11 |
| IRS IV $(n = 43)$ | 41.4 | VAC/VAI/VAE | 2 |

Table 5Five-year cumulative local control for Group IIA:unfavorable site tumors

| | RT dose | | Local failure |
|--------------------|---------|--------------|---------------|
| Protocol | (Gy) | Chemotherapy | rate (%) |
| D9602 $(n = 16)$ | 36 | VAC | 0 |
| IRS III $(n = 38)$ | 41.4 | VA | 14 |
| IRS IV $(n = 28)$ | 41.4 | VAC/VAI/VAE | 7 |

Table 6 Five-year cumulative local control for Group III orbital tumors

| | RT Dose | | Local |
|--------------------|-----------|--------------|--------------|
| Protocol | (Gy) | Chemotherapy | failure rate |
| D9602 $(n = 77)$ | 45 | VA | 14% |
| IRS III $(n = 71)$ | 41.4-50.4 | VA | 16% |
| IRS IV $(n = 50)$ | 50.4-59.5 | VAC/VAI/VAE | 4% |

Conclusions: In comparison with Intergroup Rhabdomyosarcoma Study Group III and IV results, reduced-dose radiotherapy does not compromise local control for patients with microscopic tumor after surgical resection or with orbital primary tumors when cyclophosphamide is added to the treatment program. Girls with unresected nonbladder genitourinary tumors require radiotherapy for postsurgical residual tumor for optimal local control to be achieved.

Hyperfractionation (Dose Escalation)

RESULTS FROM THE IRS-IV RANDOMIZED TRIAL OF HYPERFRACTIONATED RADIOTHERAPY IN CHILDREN WITH RHABDOMYOSARCOMA—A REPORT FROM THE IRSG

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Arm A: 59.4 Gy/ 1.1-Gy fractions twice daily at 6-hour intervals for gross disease Arm B: 50.4 Gy/ 1.8 Gy once daily.

Result: No difference in LRC, FFS, OS

Int. J. Radiation Oncology Biol. Phys., Vol. 51, No. 3, pp. 718-728, 2001

RT Techniques

- 3D CRT
- \circ IMRT
- Proton beam therapy
- Brachytherapy

IMRT for H&N RMS

CLINICAL INVESTIGATION

Head and Neck

INTENSITY-MODULATED RADIOTHERAPY FOR HEAD-AND-NECK RHABDOMYOSARCOMA

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| GTV | The gross tumour volume was defined as the extent of disease at diagnosis (pre-chemotherapy volume).Modified to reflect change in anatomy after tumour shrinkage |
|-----|--|
| CTV | 1 cm margin beyond GTV |
| PTV | 0.5cm |

H&N IMRT

Results (3 Years):

| OS - | 65% |
|--------------------------|-------------|
| LC (Primary) - | 95 % |
| LC (Node) - | 88 % |
| Dist Met Free Survival - | 80% |

Orbit: No failures

DFS inferior in Alveolar

Acute/ Late toxicities: Similar to previous IRS studies without IGRT IMRT with reduced margins: Excellent outcomes

IMRT for H&N RMS

LOCAL CONTROL AFTER INTENSITY-MODULATED RADIOTHERAPY FOR HEAD-AND-NECK RHABDOMYOSARCOMA

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4 Year LC (92.9%), OS (76%)

Overall Survival:

Parameningeal: 42.9%

Other Sites: 100%

3D-CRT vs IMRT

EFFECT OF RADIOTHERAPY TECHNIQUES (IMRT VS. 3D-CRT) ON OUTCOME IN PATIENTS WITH INTERMEDIATE-RISK RHABDOMYOSARCOMA ENROLLED IN COG D9803—A REPORT FROM THE CHILDREN'S ONCOLOGY GROUP

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| | 3D-CRT | IMRT |
|------------------------------|----------|----------|
| Median FU | 5.7 Yrs | 4.2 Yrs |
| 5 Yr Local Rec Free Survival | 18% | 15% |
| 5 Yr Failure Free Survival | 72% | 76% |
| Target Coverage | Inferior | Superior |

Parameningeal sites: More likely treated with IMRT Doses >50Gy more frequently with IMRT

Proton Beam Therapy

- Sharp fall off
- Superior dose distribution
- Greater sparing of normal structures
- Advantageous especially in H&N (para-meningeal)locations

FRACTIONATED, THREE-DIMENSIONAL, PLANNING-ASSISTED PROTON-RADIATION THERAPY FOR ORBITAL RHABDOMYOSARCOMA: A NOVEL TECHNIQUE

Eugen B. Hug, M.D.,*^{†‡§} Judy Adams, C.M.D.,*[†] Markus Fitzek, M.D.,*[†] Alexander De Vries, M.D.,*[†] and John E. Munzenrider, M.D.*[†]

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- Excellent sparing of lens & orbit
- Conformal target dose coverage



PROTON RADIOTHERAPY FOR ORBITAL RHABDOMYOSARCOMA: CLINICAL OUTCOME AND A DOSIMETRIC COMPARISON WITH PHOTONS

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| Structure | X-ray dose average (%)* | Proton dose average (%)* | Difference (%) | Percent savings [†] |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|------------------------------|
| Hypothalamus | 6.3 | 0.7 | 5.6 | 88.7 |
| Pituitary | 21.7 | 1.3 | 20.4 | 94.1 |
| Brain | 10.4 | 1.2 | 9.1 | 88.1 |
| Temporal lobe (contralateral) | 6.3 | 0.7 | 5.6 | 88.6 |
| Temporal lobe (ipsilateral) | 18.1 | 3.3 | 14.8 | 81.8 |
| Chiasm | 19.8 | 1.9 | 17.9 | 90.4 |

Table 4. Average dose and percent savings to CNS structures

PROTON RADIOTHERAPY FOR PARAMENINGEAL RHABDOMYOSARCOMA: CLINICAL OUTCOMES AND LATE EFFECTS

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|------------------------------------|---|--------|---|-----------|---|----|---|-----|
| | Protons: MGH (n = 10) Median f/u: 5 y | | IRS II-III* ($n = 213$) Median f/u: 7 y | | IMRT: MSKCC [†] (n = 21) Median f/u: 2 y | | University of Iowa [‡] (n = 17) Median f/u: 20 y | |
| Toxicity | n | % | n | % | n | % | n | % |
| Decreased growth velocity | 3/10 | 30 | 92/190 | 48 | NR | | 9/15 | 60 |
| Growth hormone replacement | 2/10 | 20 | 36/190 | 19 | 1/21 | 5 | 6/15 | 40 |
| Other endocrinopathies | 1/10 | 10 | 17/213 | 8 | NR | | 1/15 | 7 |
| Facial hypoplasia | 7/10 | 70 | 74/76 | 97 | 1/21 | 5 | 11/15 | 73 |
| Visual complications | 0 | | 45/213 | 21 | 2/21 | 10 | 9/11 | 82 |
| Auditory complications | 0 | | 36/213 | 17 | NR | | 6/8 | 75 |
| Dentition | 3/10 | 30 | NR | | NR | | 7/7 | 100 |
| Chronic nasal and sinus congestion | 2/10 | 20 | 35/71 | 49 | 4/21 | 19 | NR | |
| Secondary malignancies | 0 | | 4/213 | 2 | 2/21 | 10 | 1/17 | 6 |

Table 2. Incidence of recorded toxicities in patients with parameningeal rhabdomyosarcoma: Comparison of proton data with previously published studies

SUMMARY

- Radiation therapy forms an important component in combined modality treatment of RMS
- Improves local disease control in high risk patients
- Conformal techniques can reduce toxicities without compromising outcomes
- Brachytherapy us a useful tool for radiotherapy in young children
- Quality assurance & compliance to guidelines is essential for optimal disease control
- Avoidance or Delaying RT should be done with caution