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abstract

Clinical and Pathological Characteristics of Extracranial Germ Cell Tumors: A 30-year single-center experience in Saudi Arabia

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Clinical and Pathological Characteristics of Extracranial Germ Cell Tumors: A 30-year single-center experience in Saudi Arabia

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Introduction: The aim is to investigate the clinical and pathological characteristics of extracranial germ cell tumors (GCTs) in children aged 0–168 months treated at the National Guard Hospital, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia from 1990 to 2020.

Methodology: In this retrospective analysis, the data for all cases of GCTs were collected from 1990 to 2020. Statistical analyses were carried out using JMP software. The data was divided into 4 main categories: demographics, pathological/clinical features, recurrence, treatment and outcome.

Results: The study included 50 patients, with a mean age at diagnosis of 56.52 months. The median follow-up duration was 30 months. Most tumors were in the gonads, and among the extragonadal tumors, the sacro-coccyx was the most frequent site of the disease. The most common histological subtype of GCTs is yolk sac tumor, accounting for 28% of cases. Of the 50 patients, 46% received chemotherapy, and 54% underwent surgery without chemotherapy. Ten (20%) patients experienced recurrence after treatment. At the last follow-up, 96% of the patients were alive, and only 2 of the patients died due to advanced disease.

Conclusion: Our findings were comparable to international data, but improvement in surveillance is required for long-term survivors.