



ASSOCIAZIONE ITALIANA EMATOLOGIA
ONCOLOGIA PEDIATRICA

Rare CNS embryonal tumors

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IRCCS Istituto Nazionale dei Tumori, Milano

Bologna, 3 ottobre 2023



FONDAZIONE IRCCS
ISTITUTO NAZIONALE
DEI TUMORI

XLVIII

CONGRESSO NAZIONALE

AIEOP

Bologna
2-4 Ottobre 2023

La sottoscritta Elisabetta Schiavello

ai sensi dell'art. 3.3 sul Conflitto di Interessi, pag. 17 del Reg. Applicativo dell'Accordo Stato-Regione del 5 novembre 2009,

dichiara

☒ *che negli ultimi due anni NON ha avuto rapporti diretti di finanziamento con soggetti portatori di interessi commerciali in campo sanitario*

- 16% of CNS tumors: MBL, ATRT, ETMR and others rarer entities
- infants/ young children
- highly cellular tumors: small, blue, round cells
- with tendency for dissemination

HISTORY

- 1993-97 PNET: descriptive diagnosis
- 2000 supratentorial PNET
- 2007 CNS-PNET : heterogeneous group with descriptive- morphological characteristics but lacking specific diagnostic criteria
- WHO 2016: ~~PNET~~ → introduction of genome wide molecular diagnostics unveiled molecular heterogeneity
- **WHO 2021: incorporation of specific molecular-genetic alterations into the diagnostic criteria**

rare CNS embryonal tumors

World Health Organization Classification of Tumors of the Central Nervous System, fifth edition

Choroid plexus tumors

Choroid plexus papilloma

Atypical choroid plexus papilloma

Choroid plexus carcinoma

Embryonal tumors

Medulloblastoma

Medulloblastomas, molecularly defined

Medulloblastoma, WNT-activated

Medulloblastoma, SHH-activated and *TP53*-wildtype

Medulloblastoma, SHH-activated and *TP53*-mutant

Medulloblastoma, non-WNT/non-SHH

Medulloblastomas, histologically defined

Other CNS embryonal tumors

Atypical teratoid/rhabdoid tumor

Cribiform neuroepithelial tumor

Embryonal tumor with multilayered rosettes

CNS neuroblastoma, *FOXR2*-activated

CNS tumor with *BCOR* internal tandem duplication

CNS embryonal tumor

Louis et al



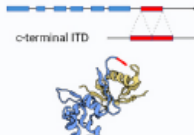

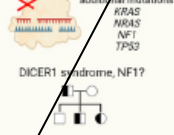







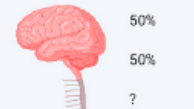


Neuro-Oncology

The 2021 WHO Classification of Tumors of the Central Nervous System: a summary

Rare embryonal and sarcomatous central nervous system tumours:

State-of-the art and future directions

European Journal of Medical Genetics 66 (2023) Gojo J. et al





Tumour group	Embryonal tumours			Sarcomatous tumours	
Tumour type	Embryonal tumour with multilayered rosettes (ETMR)	CNS neuroblastoma, <i>FOXR2</i> -activated (CNS NB- <i>FOXR2</i>)	CNS tumour with <i>BCOR</i> internal tandem duplication (CNS <i>BCOR</i> -ITD)	<i>CIC</i> -rearranged sarcoma (CNS <i>CIC</i>)	Primary intracranial sarcoma, <i>DICER1</i> -mutant (CNS <i>DICER1</i>)
Biological hallmarks	<p><i>CT19MC</i> amplification (90%) <i>MIR17HG</i> amplification (1%)</p>  <p>bi-allelic <i>DICER1</i> mutation (5%) DICER1 syndrome</p>	<p><i>FOXR2</i> re-arrangement / activation</p>  <p>aberrant <i>FOXR2</i> expression</p> <p>1q gain (94%)</p>	<p><i>BCOR</i> internal tandem duplication</p>  <p>c-terminal ITD</p>	<p><i>CIC</i> re-arrangement</p>  <p>aberrant gene expression</p> <p><i>CIC</i> fusion protein</p>	<p>biallelic <i>DICER1</i> mutation</p>  <p>additional mutations <i>KRAS</i> <i>NRAS</i> <i>NF1</i> <i>TP53</i></p> <p>DICER1 syndrome, NF1?</p>
Molecular biomarkers	<p><i>LIN28A</i> expression <i>CT19MC</i> amplification <i>DICER1</i> mutation DNA methylation</p>	<p><i>SOX10</i>/<i>ANKRD55</i> expression <i>FOXR2</i> re-arrangement DNA methylation</p>	<p>nuclear <i>BCOR</i> expression <i>BCOR</i> ITD DNA methylation</p>	<p>patchy <i>CD99</i>/<i>ETV4</i>/<i>WT1</i> expression <i>CIC</i> re-arrangement DNA methylation</p>	<p>expression of myogenic markers loss of H3 p.K28me3 in IHC <i>DICER1</i> mutation DNA methylation</p>
Demographics	 <p>50% : 50%</p>	 <p>50% : 50%</p>	 <p>40% : 60%</p>	 <p>50% : 50%</p>	 <p>50% : 50%</p>
Localisation	 <p>70% 30% <1%</p>	 <p>100%</p>	 <p>50% 50% ?</p>	 <p>entire CNS</p>	 <p>> 90% few few</p>
Metastasis	<p>20-25% at diagnosis 20 (~40%) at relapse</p>	<p>17% at diagnosis frequent at relapse</p>	<p>frequent at relapse extra CNS metastasis wound site seeding</p>	<p>frequent metastasis</p>	<p><5% at diagnosis extra CNS metastasis at relapse</p>
Outcome	<p>25% 5-year OS higher with absence of risk factors and intensified treatment</p>	<p>≥80% 5-year OS</p>	<p>aggressive disease 70% 2-year OS more data needed</p>	<p>more data needed</p>	<p>aggressive disease 2-year OS for M0 with GTR, 70% more data needed</p>
Risk factors	<p>brainstem localisation metastatic disease</p>	<p>not known</p>	<p>metastatic disease</p>	<p>not known</p>	<p>not known</p>

- ETMR
- CNS neuroblastoma, *FOXR2*-activated (CNS NB-*FOXR2*)
- CNS tumour with *BCOR*-ITD (CNS *BCOR*-ITD)
- primary intracranial sarcoma, *DICER1*-mutant (CNS *DICER1*)
- *CIC*-rearranged sarcoma (CNS *CIC*)
- Pineoblastoma
- Astroblastoma MN1 altered (glioma sub-type??)

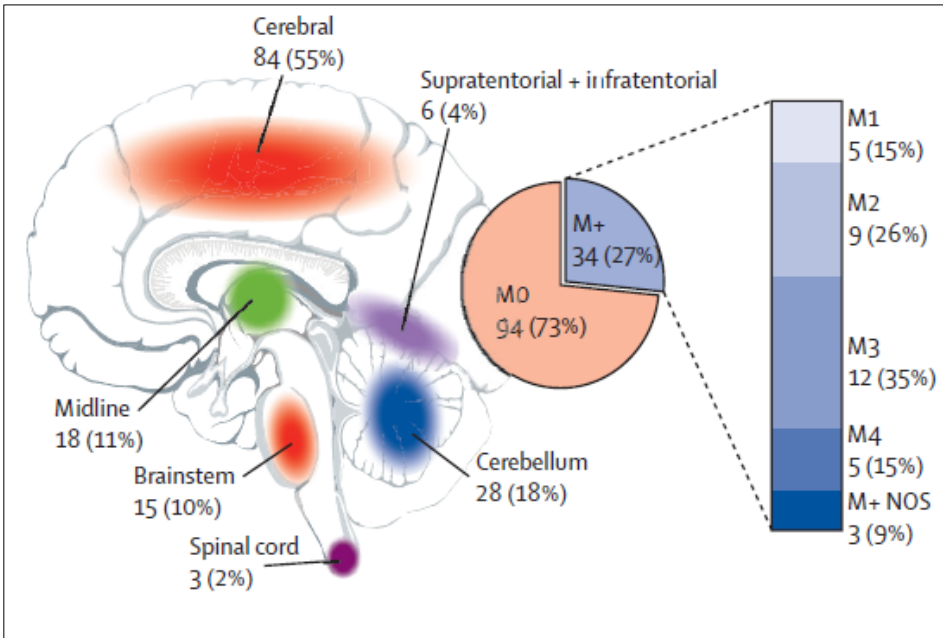
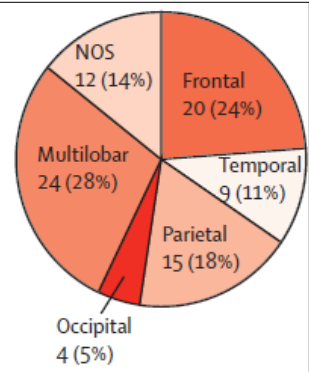
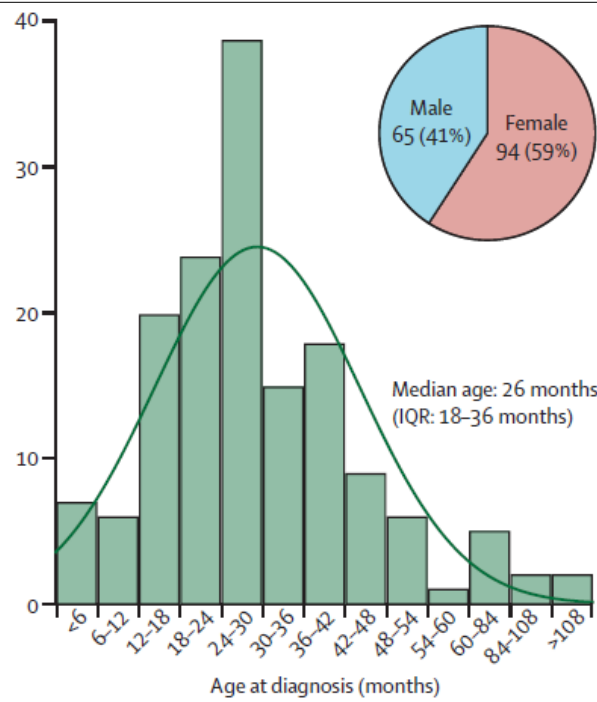
are now listed in the group of mesenchymal tumours of uncertain differentiation

→ other novel tumour types with distinct molecular features such as gene fusions involving *PATZ1*, *BCOR/BCORL1* or *PLAGL1* have recently been described and are **not included** in the 5th edition of the WHO classification of CNS tumours, yet

→ the classification is expected to undergo constant evolution and refinement in the coming years...

Tumour type	Embryonal tumour with multilayered rosettes (ETMR)
Biological hallmarks	<p><i>C19MC</i> amplification (90%) <i>MIR17HG</i> amplification (1%)</p>  <p>bi-allelic <i>DICER1</i> mutation (5%) <i>DICER1</i> syndrome</p> 
Molecular biomarkers	<p>LIN28A expression <i>C19MC</i> amplification <i>DICER1</i> mutation DNA methylation</p>
Demographics	 <p>50% : 50%</p>
Localisation	 <p>70% 30% <1%</p>
Metastasis	<p>20-25% at diagnosis 20 (~40)% at relapse</p>
Outcome	<p>25% 5-year OS higher with absence of risk factors and intensified treatment</p>
Risk factors	<p>brainstem localisation metastatic disease</p>

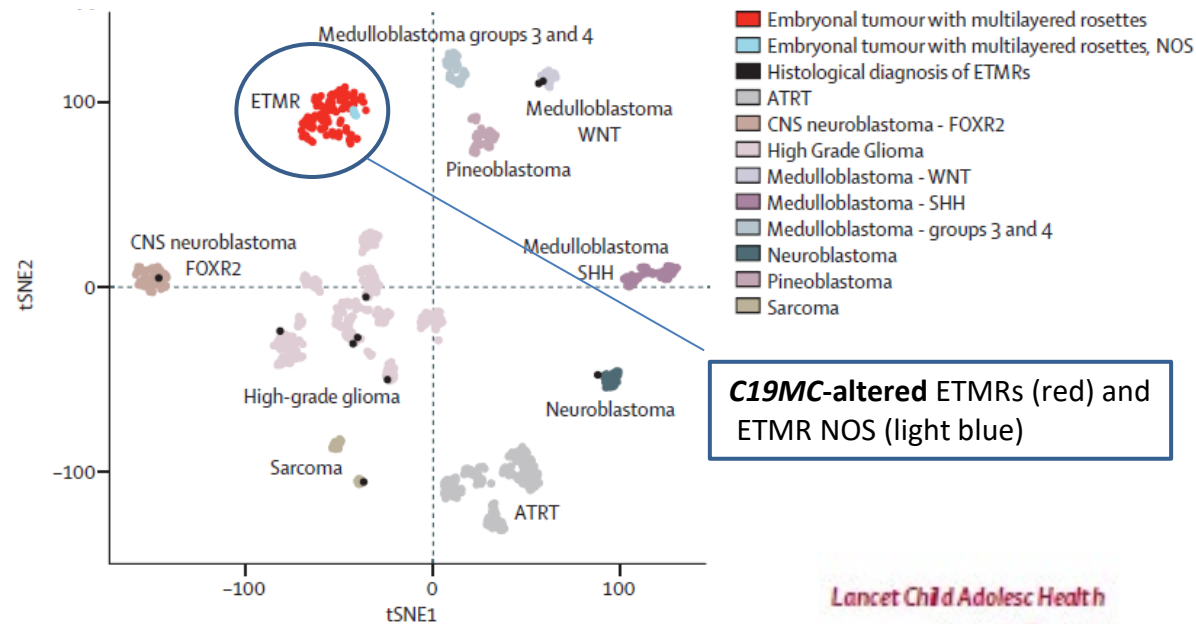
embryonal tumour with multilayered rosettes- ETMR



**Clinical phenotypes and prognostic features of embryonal
tumours with multi-layered rosettes: a Rare Brain Tumor
Registry study** Khan S. et al

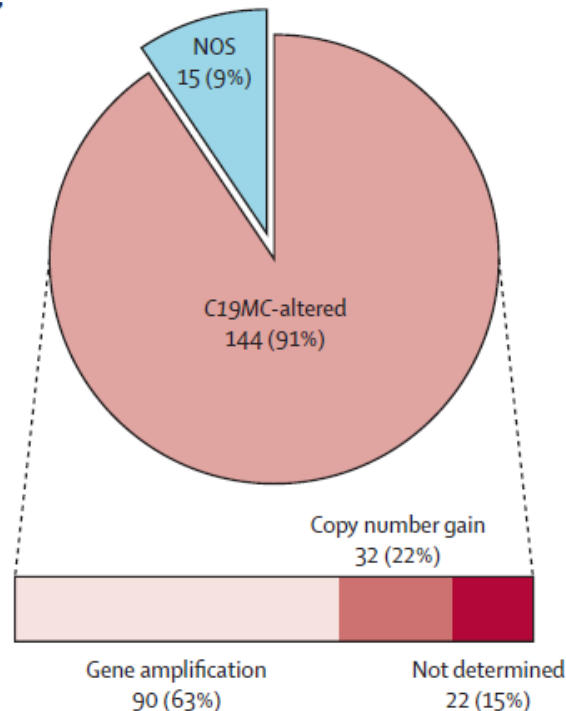
Clinical phenotypes and prognostic features of embryonal tumours with multi-layered rosettes: a Rare Brain Tumor Registry study

159 pts, centrally reviewed



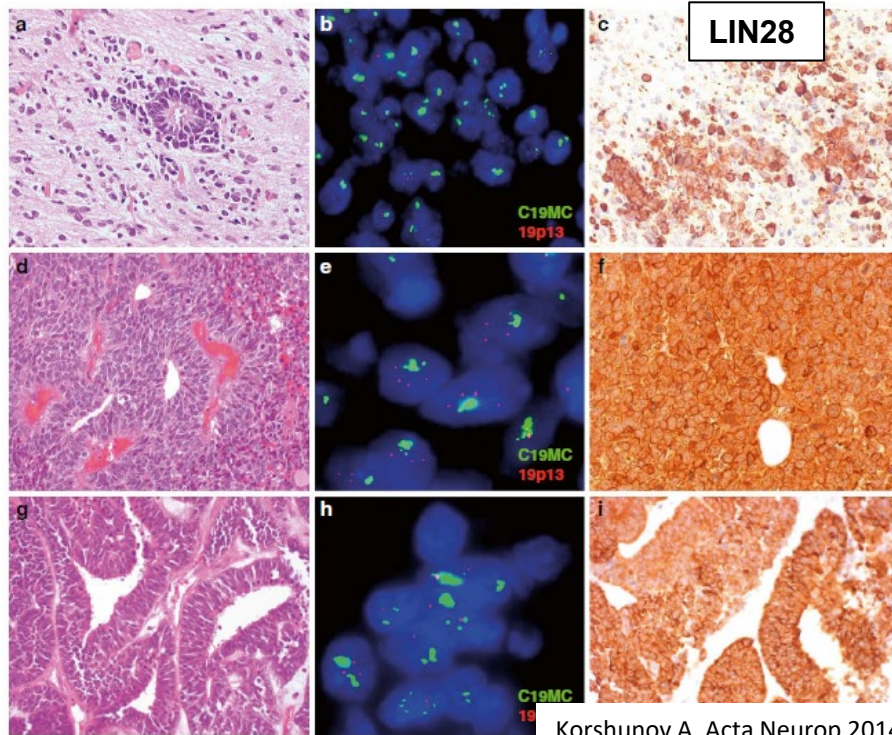
C19MC-altered ETMRs (red) and ETMR NOS (light blue)

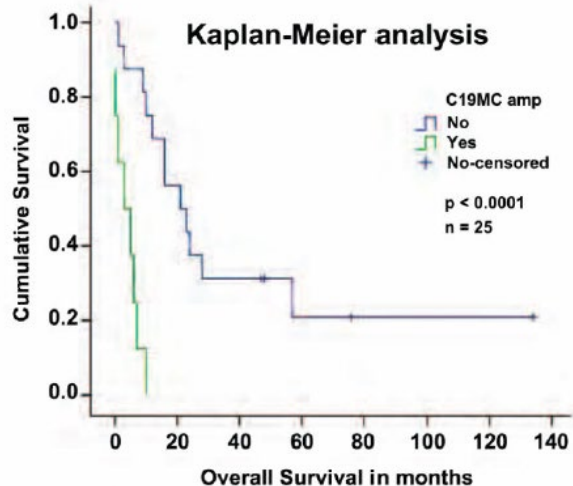
Lancet Child Adolesc Health
2021; 5: 800-13



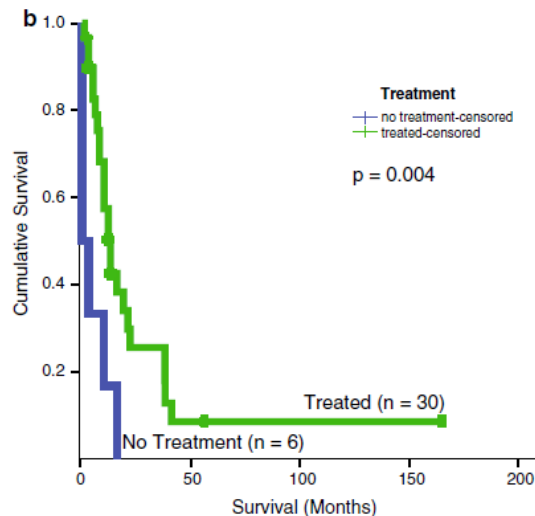
ETMR, essential diagnostic criteria

- typical morphological pattern: ETANTR, EBL, MEPL
- IHC: LIN28A expression, is supportive but not specific (also in HGG/ATRT)
- 90%: recurrent amplification of **C19MC** (by FISH or methylation)- chr19 miRNA cluster
- 5%: **DICER1** mutation (→genetic counselling)
- rare negative C19MC/DICER1: **miR-17-92** microRNA amplification, chr13

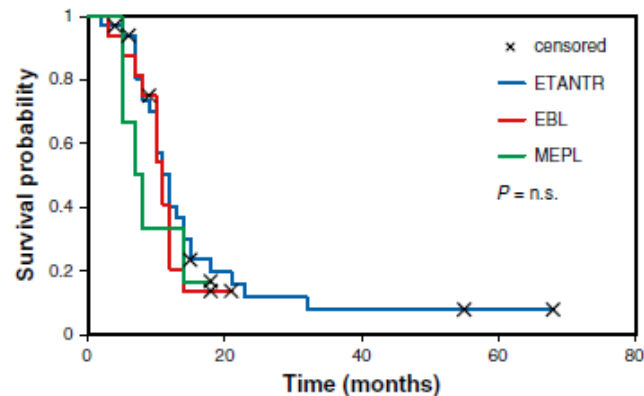




Li C, Cancer Cells 2009
N=11



Spencer T, Acta Neurop 2014
N=54



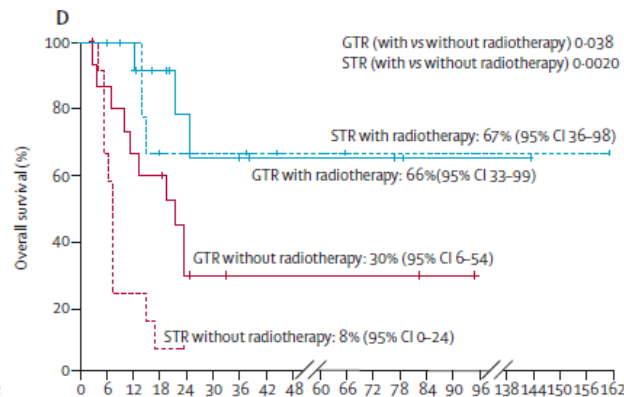
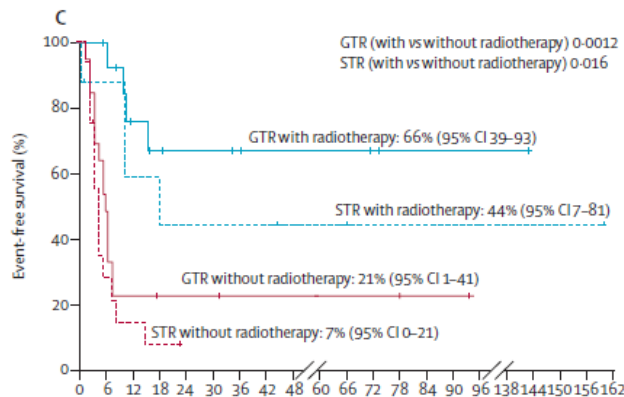
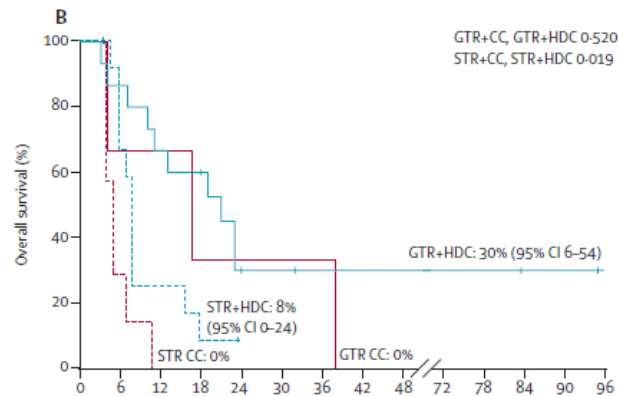
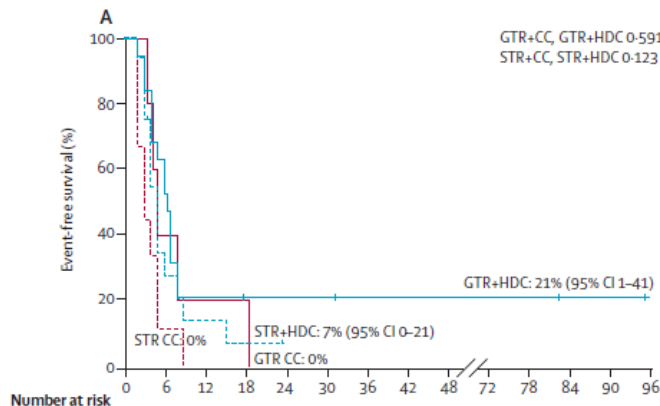
Korshunov A, Acta Neurop 2014
N=97

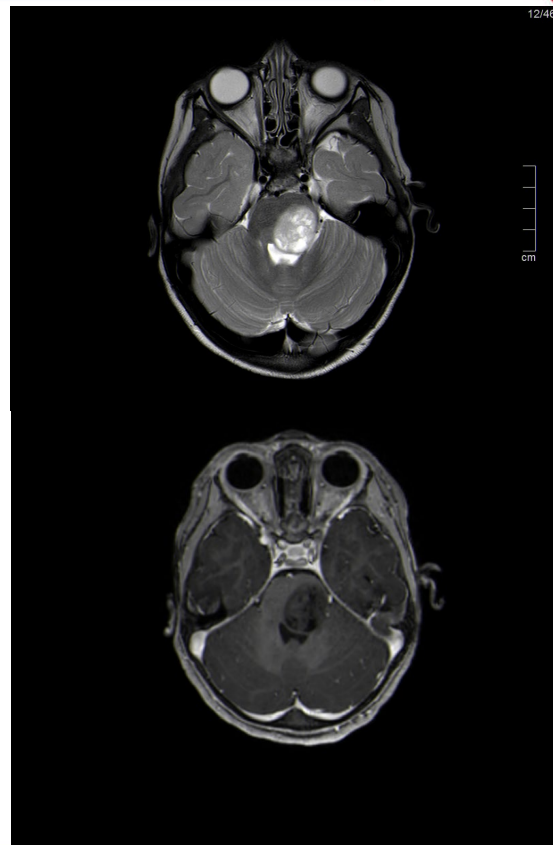
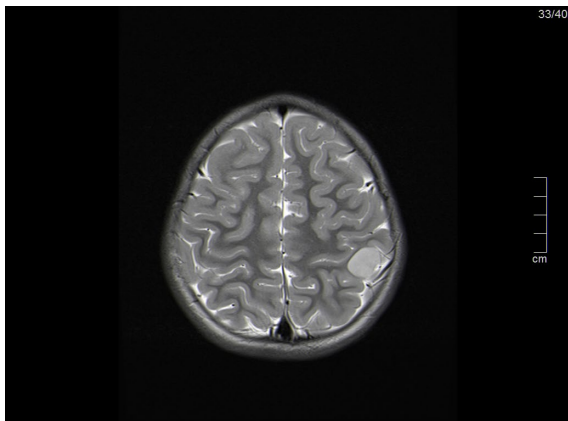
ETMR- previous retrospective series

159 pts
108 pts with curative intent:
2yrs EFS 31%; OS 29%

EFS(n=57) and OS(n=51) for
pts treated **HD CT with or
without RT**

- better OS associated with :
- NON METASTATIC
 - NON-BRAINSTEM
- univariate analysis
- GTR
 - HD-CT
 - RT
- multivariable analysis





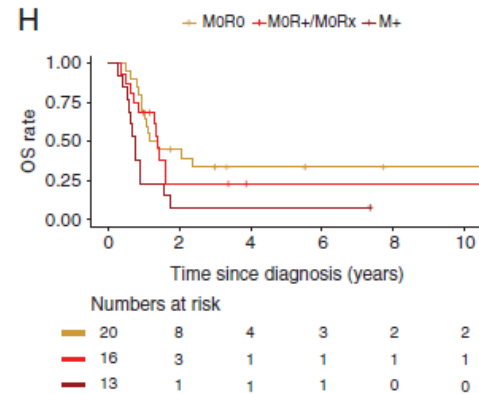
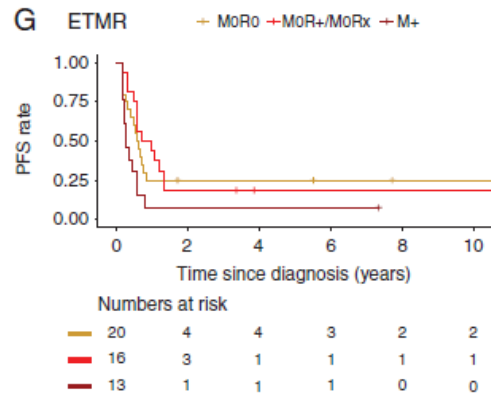
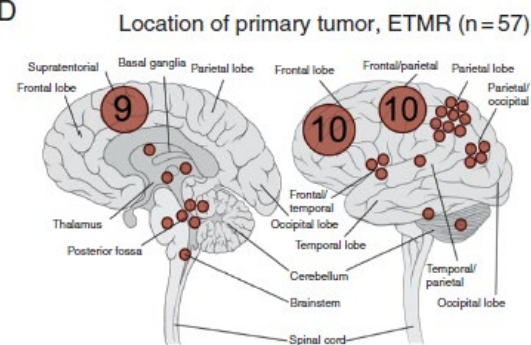
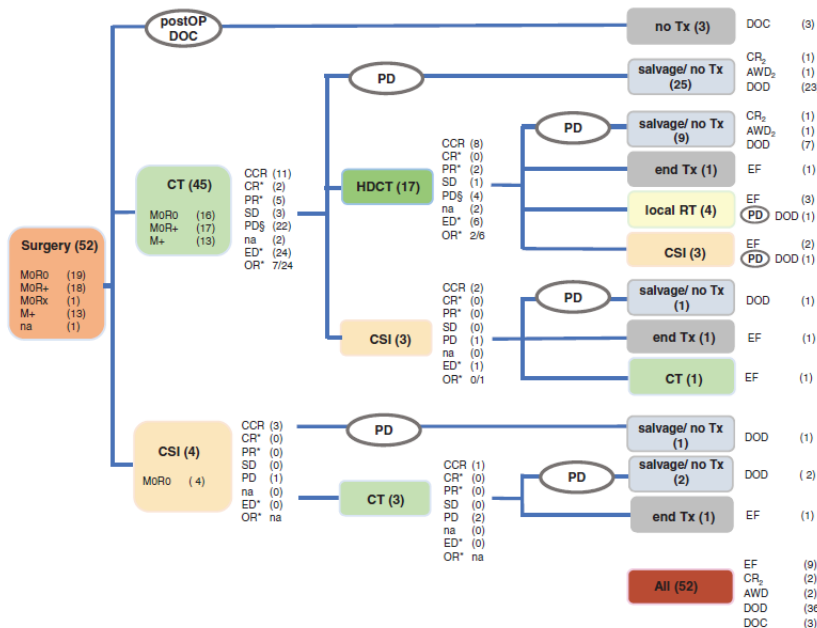
Neuro-Oncology

2596, 1962, 1911, 2021 | doi:10.1093/neuonc/nkab136 | Advance Access date 7 June 2021

**Therapeutic implications of improved molecular
diagnostics for rare CNS embryonal tumor entities:
results of an international, retrospective study**

von Hoff, 2021

Clinical data on 52 ETMR patients:



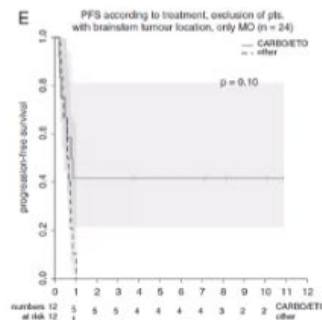
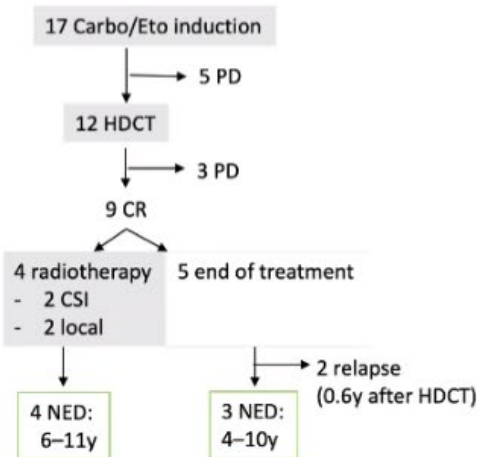
despite response rates on CT of 30%
38/40 (95%) relapse/progressions occurred on treatment

Neuro-Oncology

24(1), 127–137, 2022 | doi:10.1003/neuonc.2021.100 | Advance Access date 28 April 2021

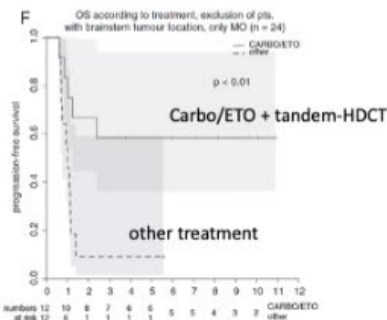
Treatment of embryonal tumors with multilayered rosettes with carboplatin/etoposide induction and high-dose chemotherapy within the prospective P-HIT trial

B.-Ole Juhnke, Marco Gessi, Nicolas U. Gerber, Carsten Friedrich, Martin Mynarek, André O. von Bueren, Christine Haberler, Ulrich Schüller, Rolf-Dieter Kortmann, Beate Timmermann, Brigitte Bison, Monika Warmuth-Metz, Robert Kwiecien, Stefan M. Pfister, Claudia Spix, Torsten Pietsch, Marcel Kool, Stefan Rutkowski, Katja von Hoff



5-year PFS (CARBO/ETO, n=17):
35% (95%CI: 19-67%)

5-year PFS, M0 only (CARBO/ETO, n=12):
42% (95%CI: 21-81%)



5-year OS (CARBO/ETO, n=17):
47% (95%CI: 28-78%)

5-year OS, M0 only (CARBO/ETO, n=12):
58% (95%CI: 36-94%)

- median age 2.9 yrs
- 35 pts (9 M+)
- 30 pts non-brainstem:
5-yr PFS/OS: 35/47% with CARBO/ETO + HDCT (n = 17)
- all 4 pts with brainstem tumor died within 10 months after diagnosis
- **independent prognostic factors** (multiv):
 - supratentorial
 - M0
 - no residual tumor
 - CBDCA/VP16+HDCT
- of 9 survivors: 6 treated with RT (CSI 4; focal 2)

A modified IRS-III chemotherapy regimen leads to prolonged survival in children with embryonal tumor with multilayer rosettes

Hanson D, Chi S et al.

Neuro-Oncology Advances

2(1), 1–7, 2020 | doi:10.1093/naojnl/vdaa120 | Advance Access date 18 September 2020

Table 1. Summary of Case Series

Case	Age	Sex	Tumor Location	M Stage	C19MC	Surgery	IRS-III Treatment	HDC + ASCT	RT	Additional Therapy	EFS	OS	Status
1	32 months	F	R Parietal	M0	Positive	GTR	51 weeks	No	Focal RT	None	7 years 6 months	7 years 6 months	Alive, NED
2	39 months	F	R Parietal	M0	Positive	GTR	19 weeks	No	Focal Proton	Omburtamab DFMO	3 years 3 months	3 years 3 months	Alive, NED
3	5 months	F	R Posterior Fossa	M0	Negative	STR, then GTR	12 weeks	Yes	None	DFMO Everolimus IT Topotecan	3 years 2 months	3 years 2 months	Alive, NED
4	22 months	M	R Parietal	M0	Positive	GTR	12 weeks	No	Focal Proton	DFMO Vorinostat Topotecan Lorlatinib Irinotecan Olaparib Veliparib RT × 2	4 months	1 years 10 months	Alive, NED
5	26 months	F	R Frontal/Parietal	M0	Positive	GTR	50 weeks	No	Focal Proton	None	1 year 7 months	1 year 7 months	Alive, NED

DFMO, difluoromethylornithine; F, female; GTR, gross-total resection; HDC + ASCT, high-dose chemotherapy plus autologous stem cell rescue; M, Male; NED, no evidence of disease; RT, radiotherapy; STR, sub-total resection.

Potential Importance of Early Focal Radiotherapy Following Gross Total Resection for Long-Term Survival in Children With Embryonal Tumors With Multilayered Rosettes



Mayr L, et al

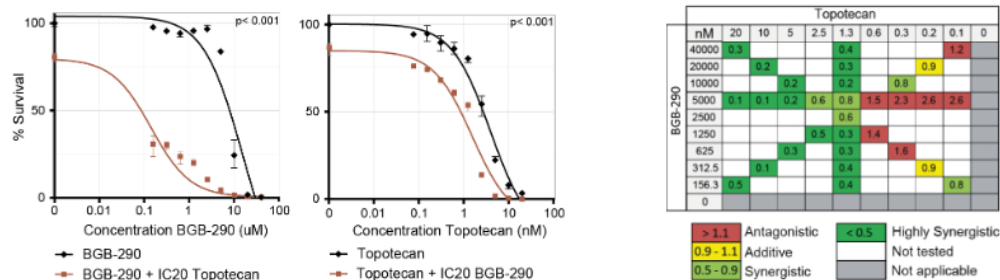
TABLE 1 | Patient characteristics, treatment and outcome.

Case	Age (months)	Sex	Location	Surgery	M-Stage	Primary CT	Focal RT (months after Dx)	Intrathecal CT	HDCT (months after Dx)	Status/Follow up (months)	LIN28A	C19MC amplification/ DICER1 mut	CNV Gains	CNV Losses
1	25	m	parietal	GTR	M0	HIT 2000 SKK	11.5	VP16, Depocyte MTX,	6	DOD,27	pos	19q13.42	2,5p	–
2	33	f	parietal	GTR	M0	HIT2000 SKK	7.5	VP16, Depocyte	6	DOD,14	pos	19q13.42	1q,2,4,17,20	–
3	5	f	pineal	GTR	M0	HIT2000 SKK	–	VP16, Depocyte	6	DOC,6	pos	DICER1	2	7q
4	35	f	bifrontal	GTR	M0	Doxorubicin	–	no	–	DOD,15	pos	19q13.42	2,3,4,8,11,12	–
5	16	f	pineal	GTR	M0	MLIV/ATBT	6.5	VP16	–	DOD,13	pos	19q13.42	–	–
6	38	f	parietal	GTR	M0	PEI/TMZ	1.5	VP16, Depocyte Topo	–	NED,56+	pos	19q13.42	–	–
7	27	f	bifrontal	GTR	M0	PEI/TMZ	1.5	VP16, Depocyte	–	NED,50+	pos	19q13.42	4	–
8	13	f	pontine	Biopsy	M0	IP-CZD	3.5	VP16	–	DOD,11	pos	19q13.42	2,7,8	–
9	19	m	pineal	PR	M0	IP-CZD	5.5	VP16, ara-C, Topo	–	DOD,14	pos	19q13.42	2	–

m, male; f, female; GTR, gross total resection; PR, partial resection; CT, chemotherapy; PEI, cisplatin, etoposide, ifosfamide; TMZ, temozolomide; IP-CZD, polish infant IP-CZD protocol; RT, radiotherapy; Dx, diagnosis; VP16, etoposide; Depocyte, liposomal cytarabine; MTX, methotrexate; Topo, topotecan, ara-C, aqueous cytarabine; HDCT, high-dose chemotherapy; DOD, dead of disease; DOC, dead of other cause; NED, no evidence of disease; CNV, copy number variations.

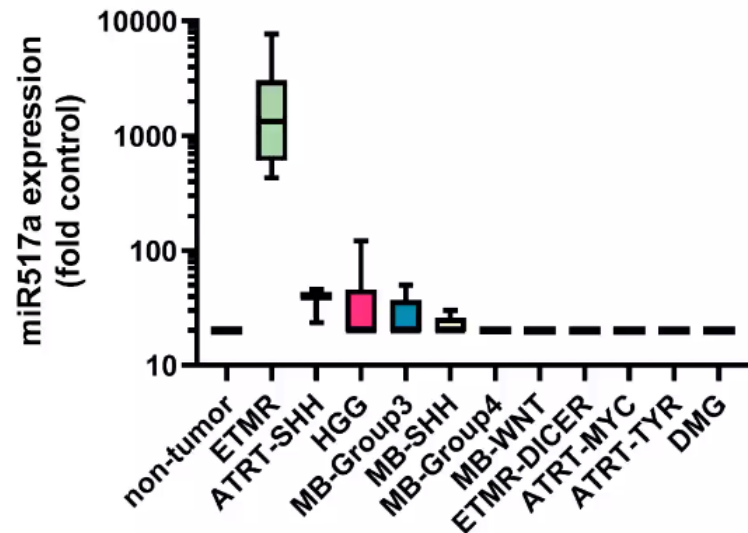
Inhibition of topoisomerase and PARP effectively kills ETMR cells

Combined inhibition with Topoisomerase and PARP inhibitors leads to a larger decrease in viability than monotherapy



Lambo et al. Nature 2019

Preclinical studies have identified sensivity of ETMR tumor models to topoisomerase inhibitors and PARP-inhibitors → need further evaluations (M. Kool, Heidelberg)



Clinical applicability of miR517a detection in liquid biopsies of ETMR patients (Madlener S, Wien)

ESCP Treatment recommendations

European Standard Clinical Practice Guidelines

SURGERY

- maximal safe resection
- consider re-resection

CHEMOTHERAPY (chemoresponsive tumors)

- early
- possible regimens include:
 - used for AT/RT (i.e. EURHAB, IRSIII modified)
 - evaluated for rare CNS embryonal tumors (i.e. P-HIT)
 - evaluated for young children with high risk CNS tumors (Head start, ACNS0334)

upon detection of somatic DICER1 alterations in the tumor,
CONSIDER genetic counselling

RADIOTHERAPY

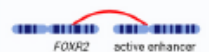
- early
- decision on *fields* (focal /CSI) and irradiation *technique* (photons/protons) should be guided by age, staging and the size/ location of the tumor
- <3 yrs, M0: focal RT (tumor bed)
- >3 yrs: CSI vs focal: insufficient evidence for recommendations; on individual factors/national guidelines

Tumour type

**CNS neuroblastoma,
FOXR2-activated
(CNS NB-*FOXR2*)**

Biological hallmarks

FOXR2 re-arrangement / activation



aberrant *FOXR2* expression



1q gain (94%)

Molecular biomarkers

SOX10/ANKRD55 expression
FOXR2 re-arrangement
DNA methylation

Demographics



Localisation



Metastasis

17% at diagnosis
frequent at relapse

Outcome

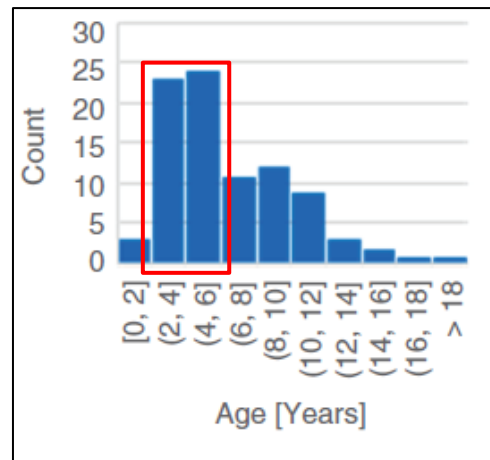
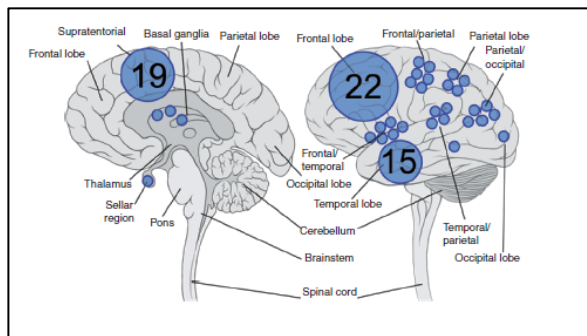
≥80% 5-year OS

Risk factors

not known

CNS neuroblastoma, *FOXR2*-activated

- arise in young children (median age 5-8 years)
- balanced across genders
- older age at presentation than ETMR
- only supratentorial



von Hoff et al, 2021

- in one study, CNS metastases were present in 17%
- 5-year OS >80% (Korshunov et al., 2021)

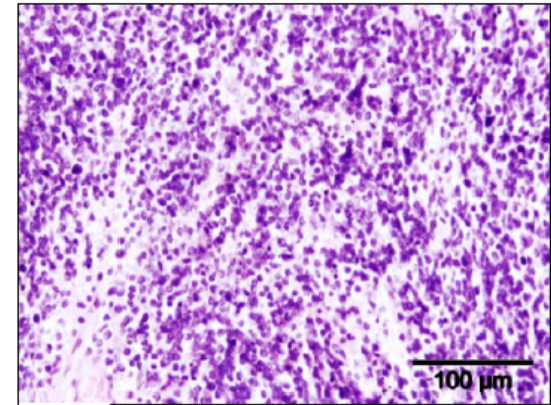
CNS neuroblastoma, *FOXR2*-activated

Essential diagnostic criteria:

- embryonal tumor with foci of neuroblastic or neuronal differentiation **and**
- chromosomal rearrangements that lead to increased expression of the transcription factor *FOXR2*

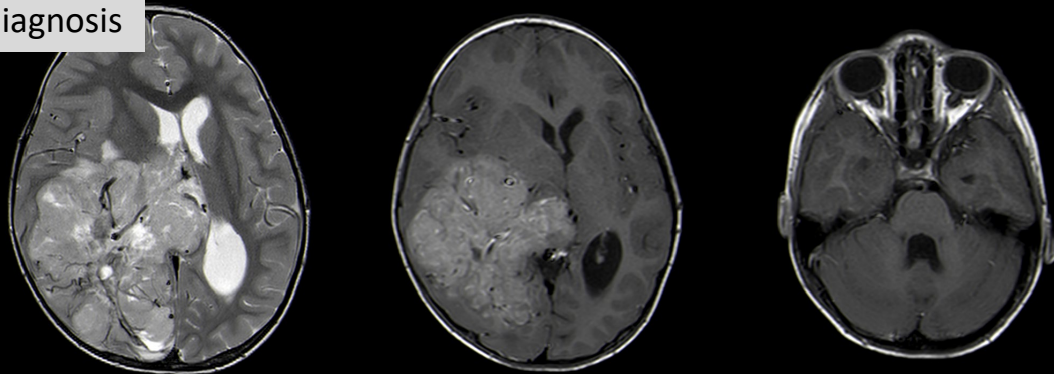
- OLIG2 and synaptophysin expression
- vimentin is usually absent

in poorly differentiated tumors exclude HGG

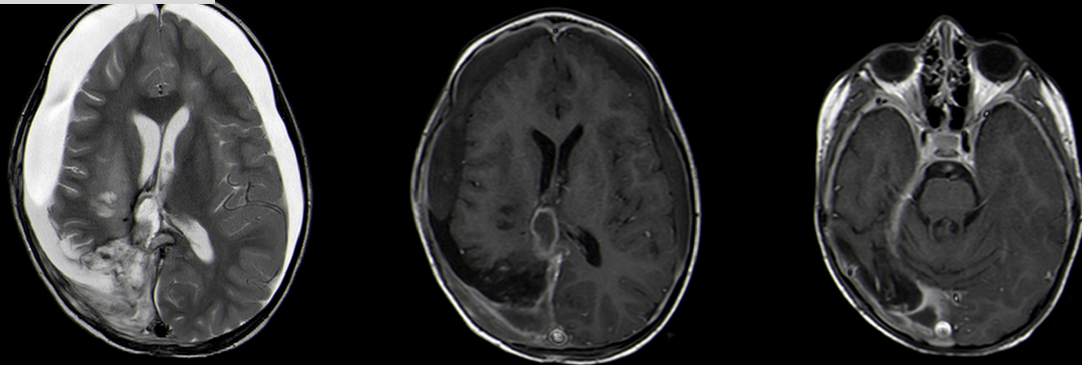


HE

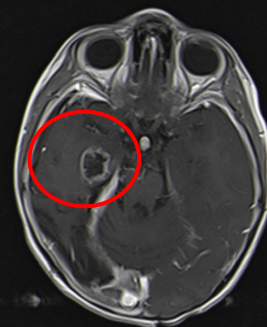
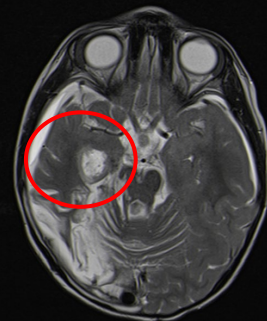
diagnosis



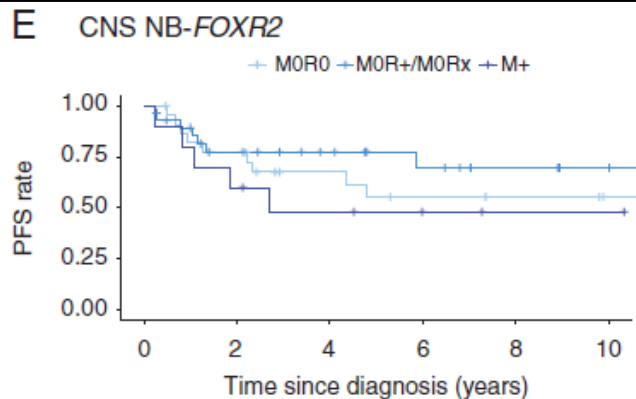
after surgery



after 2 months

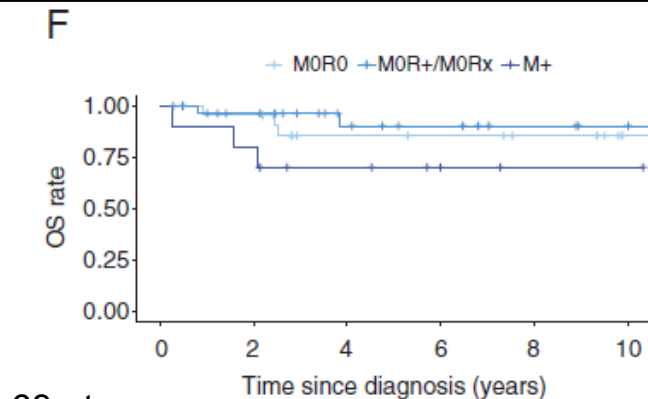


- estimations for prognostic parameters are difficult to identify
- prolonged survival reported also for pts with high-risk criteria (residual tumour and M+)
- focal RT vs CSI: higher frequency of distant relapses after focal irradiation



Numbers at risk

23	17	11	8	7	5
29	18	13	9	6	4
10	6	4	2	1	1



63 pts

Numbers at risk

23	21	14	13	11	7
29	23	15	12	9	7
10	8	5	2	1	1

LOCALIZED disease

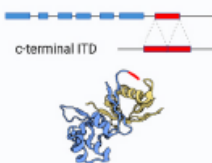


- maximal safe resection (consider re-resection)
- focal RT cannot be recommended (distant relapses reported)-> CSI
- older children: a “MBL”-like treatment with CSI (standard risk 23.4 Gy) and maintenance CT (es BABABABA PNET5)
- young children: RT-omitting regimens (eventual use of salvage RT may be used)

RESIDUAL tumor

- upfront CT (i.e.CBDCA-VP16 x 2)
- second surgical opinion is recommended
- CSI and maintenance CT as localized disease

METASTATIC disease

- treatment according to MBL-HR/ CNS PNET with increased CSI dose
- upfront CT may be used with subsequent re-evaluation of re-surgery

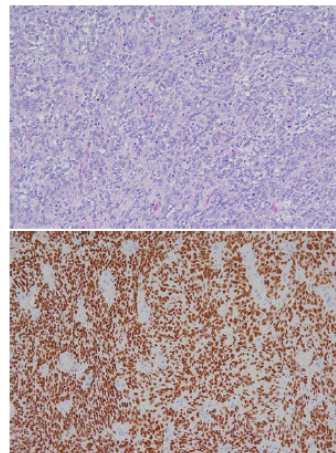
Tumour type	CNS tumour with <i>BCOR</i> internal tandem duplication (CNS <i>BCOR</i> -ITD)
Biological hallmarks	<p><i>BCOR</i> internal tandem duplication</p>  <p>c-terminal ITD</p>
Molecular biomarkers	<p>nuclear <i>BCOR</i> expression <i>BCOR</i>-ITD DNA methylation</p>
Demographics	 <p>40% : 60%</p>
Localisation	 <p>50% 50% ?</p>
Metastasis	<p>frequent at relapse extra CNS metastasis wound site seeding</p>
Outcome	<p>aggressive disease 70% 2-year OS more data needed</p>
Risk factors	<p>metastatic disease</p>

CNS tumor with *BCOR* internal tandem duplication (CNS *BCOR*-ITD)

CNS tumour with *BCOR* internal tandem duplication


Essential diagnostic criteria:

- Malignant primary solid CNS tumour, uniform oval or spindle shaped cells and
- Internal tandem duplication in exon 15 of *BCOR* or
- DNA methylation profile
- *BCOR* positive immunohistochemistry may guide diagnosis
- *BCOR* mutations present in other tumor types - not diagnostic



Central nervous system high-grade neuroepithelial tumor with BCOR alteration (CNS HGNET-BCOR)—case-based reviews

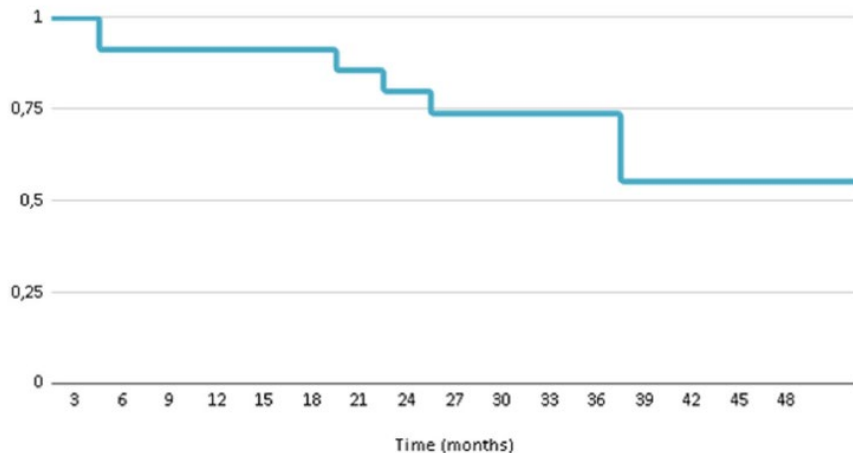
Child's Nervous System (2020)

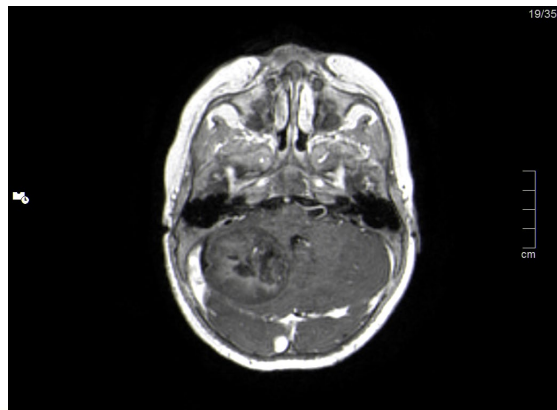
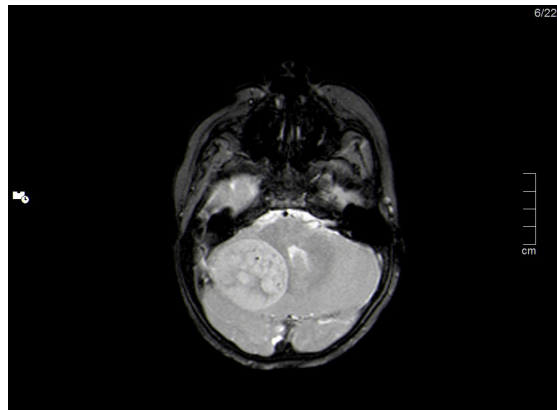
Lazaro De Lima¹ • Mehmet Beşir Sürme¹ • Marco Gessi^{2,3} • Angela Mastronuzzi⁴ • Evelina Miele⁴ •
Gianpiero Tamburrini^{1,3} • Luca Massimi^{1,3,5} 

24 cases have been described

- young children (but also also in older/ young adults): median age 4 yrs, range 7 mos–22 yrs
- arise in both genders
- site: across entire CNS, but cerebellar hemisfere: frequently involved
- high propensity for CNS and extracranial spread
- aggressive behaviour: poor OS: 70% after 2 years and 50% after 4 years

Overall Survival





heterogeneous data on treatment:

- gross total resection/re-resection
- benefit from RT (CSI)
- benefit from multiagent CT (regimen used for high risk embryonal tumor types or sarcoma seem to be justified)
- intrathecal chemotherapy may be used (AT/RT regimen)

CNS embryonal tumor NEC/NOS

- is a tumor arising in the CNS with embryonal /immunophenotype morphology
- but lacking an alteration that would classify it as one of the molecularly defined CNS embryonal tumors

NOS not otherwise specified

molecular analyses have not yet or could not be successfully performed

→ it is strongly recommended to refer such cases to a national/international reference centre

NEC not elsewhere classified

molecular analyses successfully performed but the results do not lead to an established WHO CNS5 diagnosis

Working group for rare CNS embryonal and sarcomatous tumors

<https://paedcan.ern-net.eu/the-escp-project/>

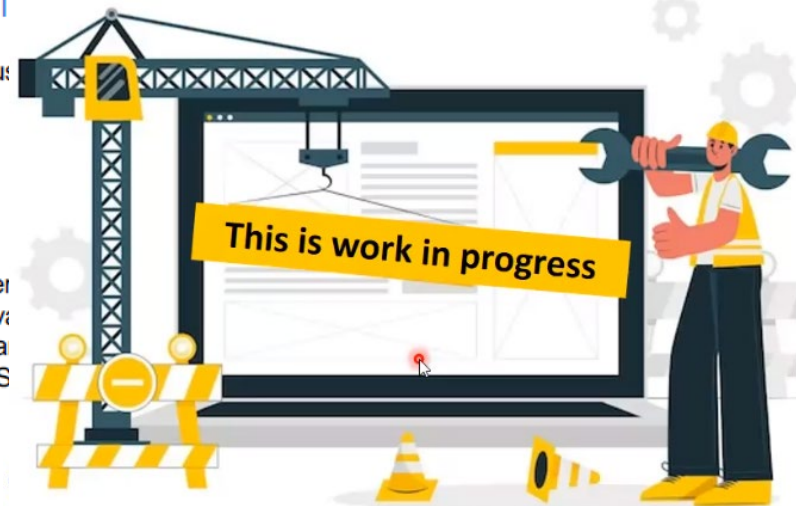
European Standard Clinical Guidelines

for rare embryonal and sarcomatous tumors

Entities:

Rare CNS embryonal tumours:

- Embryonal tumours with multi-layered nuclei
- CNS neuroblastoma, *FOXR2*-activated
- CNS tumour with *BCOR* internal tandem duplication
- CNS embryonal tumour, NEC/NOS



SIOPEurope
the European Society for Paediatric Oncology

CNS InterDECT Registry

International Registry for Patients with
rare Embryonal or Sarcomatous CNS Tumors

Knowledge on:

Treatment-associated
outcome

to
provide

Recommendations

Development