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Adult Medulloblastoma: A Case Report

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Background: Medulloblastoma (MB) is a common malignant brain tumor in children but is very uncommon in adults, especially those above 40 years, accounting for less than 1% of all primary brain tumors in adults. Although surgery and radiotherapy play an important role treatment of adult MB, the use of chemotherapy is controversial. This is the first instance of adult MB at the Ocean Road Cancer Institute (ORCI) in Tanzania.

Case description: We are reporting a case of 51 years old female African ethnicity who was diagnosed with a high-risk hemispheric posterior cranial fossa MB-Classic type (CMB); CNS WHO Grade 4, Chang stage M0. Immunohistochemistry, reticulin stain, and molecular sub typing could not be done because they were not available. She was treated by subtotal posterior cranial fossa tumor resection followed by adjuvant concurrent chemo-craniospinal radiation (CRST) and adjuvant chemotherapy.

Conclusion: Even in adults over 50 years old, MB should be included in the differential diagnosis of posterior fossa tumor. Adult MB is a very rare and very heterogeneous tumor, but it has a good prognosis. Immunohistochemistry and molecular sub-clustering are difficult to implement in low-income countries like Tanzania due to cost. Treatment of adult MB is highly heterogeneous among (and even within) facilities. There is no evidence that the extent of resection enhances survival. While CSRT improves survival, there is controversy about the role of chemotherapy in managing adult MB.

Biography

Emmanuel Mduma, is a young researcher and junior Clinical & Radiation oncologist who recently accomplished his masters of medicine at Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences, Dar es Salaam Tanzania. Mduma has 3 publications in peer reviewed journals with two studies in progress. He is also working as clinician at Arusha Lutheran Medical Centre, Arusha, Tanzania and he is member of Tanzania Oncology Society (TOS). Mduma has passion in scientific research so as he can be able to solve problems in his community.

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