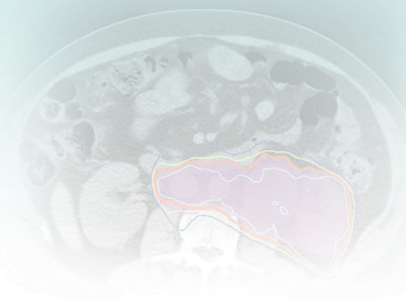


Luke E. Pater and John Breneman

**INCIDENCE**

Hepatic tumors: 1.6 per million; male predominance.

Germ cell tumors: 3% of childhood malignancies; female predominance.

Juvenile nasopharyngeal angiofibroma: 0.05% of head and neck tumors.

Pleuropulmonary blastoma: Extremely rare.

Hemangioma and lymphangioma: Hemangiomas: 1% of infants; lymphangiomas: 0.01% of infants.

Diffuse, small, round cell tumor: Extremely rare; primarily affects young males.

Langerhans cell histiocytosis: 1 million to 5 per million; slight male predominance.

Nasopharyngeal cancer: 1% of pediatric cancers; 2:1 male predominance.

BIOLOGIC CHARACTERISTICS

Hepatic tumors: Fetal-type hepatoblasts with sinusoidal hematopoiesis; typically alpha-fetoprotein positive.

Germ cell tumors: Vary widely from undifferentiated germinomas to benign well-differentiated teratomas.

Juvenile nasopharyngeal angiofibroma: Mixed endothelial-lined vessels and fibrous stroma; β -catenin mutations seen in 75%.

Pleuropulmonary blastoma: Mixed blastemal and sarcomatous elements with cystic and solid morphologies. Solid variants behave more aggressively.

Hemangioma and lymphangioma: Abnormal dilated blood or lymph vessels.

Diffuse, small, round cell tumor: Small, round blue cells with collagen dense stroma.

Langerhans cell histiocytosis: Dendritic histiocytes; CD207, S-100, and CD1a positive.

Nasopharyngeal cancer: Mostly lymphoepithelioma; Epstein-Barr virus related.

STAGING

Hepatic tumors: Right upper quadrant ultrasonography, magnetic resonance imaging/computed tomography (MRI/CT) of liver, CT of chest, alpha-fetoprotein level.

Germ cell tumors: Ultrasonography of primary tumor, CT of chest, abdomen, and pelvis; alpha-fetoprotein, β -human chorionic gonadotropin, and lactate dehydrogenase levels.

Juvenile nasopharyngeal angiofibroma: Angiography and CT or MRI of the head.

Pleuropulmonary blastoma: CT of the chest, abdomen, and pelvis; MRI of the brain.

Hemangioma and lymphangioma: CT or MRI of affected site; angiography in selected cases.

Diffuse, small, round cell tumor: CT with intravenous and oral contrast enhancement.

Langerhans cell histiocytosis: Skeletal survey, chest radiography, CT, bone scintigraphy.

Nasopharyngeal cancer: Nasopharyngoscopy, positron emission tomography (PET)/CT, MRI, blood chemistries, and dental and endocrine evaluation.

PRIMARY THERAPY

Hepatic tumors: Neoadjuvant chemotherapy and surgery; overall survival (OS) is about 65% for hepatoblastoma and 25% for hepatocellular carcinoma.

Germ cell tumors: Surgery alone for teratomas or stage I tumors; others get surgery plus chemotherapy. Cure rate is more than 90%.

Juvenile nasopharyngeal angiofibroma: Surgical resection controls approximately 70% of tumors.

Pleuropulmonary blastoma: Surgical resection; cure obtained in 80% of type I tumors and 45% of types II and III tumors.

Hemangioma and lymphangioma: Surgical resection; local control achieved in most patients.

Diffuse, small, round cell tumor: Surgical resection; cure is uncommon.

Langerhans cell histiocytosis: Varies by extent of disease.

Nasopharyngeal cancer: Radiotherapy (RT) with OS of 51% to 95% and relapse-free survival of 36% to 91%

ADJUVANT THERAPY

Hepatic tumors: Cisplatin-based chemotherapy.

Germ cell tumors: Cisplatin/etoposide/bleomycin (PEB) chemotherapy for three to four cycles.

Juvenile nasopharyngeal angiofibroma: Consider RT with 36 Gy to 40 Gy.

Pleuropulmonary blastoma: Chemotherapy with ifosfamide/vincristine/dactinomycin (Actinomycin-D)/doxorubicin (IVADo) or similar regimen.

Hemangioma and lymphangioma: None.

Diffuse, small, round cell tumor: Chemotherapy with alkylating regimen and whole-abdomen irradiation.

Langerhans cell histiocytosis: Surgery, chemotherapy, RT, or corticosteroids.

Nasopharyngeal cancer: Neoadjuvant or adjuvant chemotherapy.

THERAPY FOR LOCALLY ADVANCED DISEASE

Hepatic tumors: Neoadjuvant chemotherapy, surgery, possible liver transplantation; consider RT if unresectable.

Germ cell tumors: Neoadjuvant chemotherapy plus surgery.

Juvenile nasopharyngeal angiofibroma: RT with 36 Gy to 40 Gy controls approximately 80% of tumors.

Pleuropulmonary blastoma: Neoadjuvant chemotherapy with delayed resection. Consider RT with 44 Gy.

Hemangioma and lymphangioma: Surgery, embolization, corticosteroids.

Diffuse, small, round cell tumor: Neoadjuvant chemotherapy, surgical debulking.

Langerhans cell histiocytosis: Low-dose RT or chemotherapy.

Nasopharyngeal cancer: Most disease is locally advanced and treated with chemoradiation.

PALLIATION

Hepatic tumors: Chemotherapy or RT.

Germ cell tumors: Consider RT or additional chemotherapy.

Juvenile nasopharyngeal angiofibroma: Consider diethylstilbestrol or flutamide. Cytotoxic chemotherapy may be effective.

Pleuropulmonary blastoma: RT for brain metastases and symptomatic bone metastases.

Hemangioma and lymphangioma: Consider RT with 10 Gy to 25 Gy for life-threatening conditions.

Diffuse, small, round cell tumor: RT for symptomatic disease.

Langerhans cell histiocytosis: Low-dose RT or chemotherapy.

PRIMARY LIVER TUMORS OF CHILDHOOD**Etiology and Epidemiology**

Primary malignant liver tumors (PMLT) in children are rare malignancies representing ~1% of pediatric cancers. They are comprised almost entirely of hepatoblastoma (HBL) and hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC). In people younger than 20 years old, 67% of PMLTs are HBL and 31% are HCC.¹ Age-adjusted rates show a slight male-to-female predisposition for both HBL and HCC.^{1,2} HBL has been associated with prematurity, low birth weight, fetal alcohol syndrome, use of maternal oral contraceptives, Beckwith–Wiedemann syndrome, hemihypertrophy, and familial adenomatous polyposis.^{3–8} HCC is strongly associated with hepatitis B virus (HBV) as well as α_1 -antitrypsin deficiency, hereditary tyrosinemia, extrahepatic biliary atresia, Fanconi anemia, ataxia-telangiectasia, Sotos syndrome, glucose-6-phosphatase deficiency, congenital hepatic fibrosis, Byler disease, and Wilson disease.^{3,9}

Biologic Characteristics and Molecular Biology

There is no familial clustering of HBL, though genetic syndromes are associated with approximately 15% of cases.¹⁰ Familial adenomatous polyposis coli (FAP) with the heritable mutation of the adenomatous polyposis coli (APC) gene has been associated with risk of HBL^{11,12} as have been Beckwith–Wiedemann, Sotos syndrome, and Simpson–Golabi–Behmel syndrome. Trisomy 18 has been observed in HBL, particularly in females and patients with multifocal tumors. Other cytogenetic findings in HBL include gains of chromosomes 2, 8, or 20 and loss of 18.^{13–16} Mutations of β -catenin and phosphatidylinositol-3-kinase have been reported in sporadic cases,^{17,18} as well as differential expression of imprinted genes and altered methylation of gene promoters.^{19–21}

HBV is associated with nearly all cases of HCC in areas endemic for HBV.²² Molecular hybridization reveals incorporation of viral DNA into both malignant and adjacent benign liver cells. The time to development of HCC in children after HBV infection is known to be shorter in children than in adults.

Pathology and Pathways of Spread

HBL is an embryonal tumor thought to arise from a hepatocyte precursor cell, and accounts for 60% to 75% of PMLTs of childhood.^{23,24} Two subtypes are recognized; epithelial and mixed, with epithelial type further divided into fetal, embryonal, macrotrabecular, small-cell undifferentiated (SCU), and cholangioblastic variants. The SCU variant has a particularly poor prognosis and is often viewed distinctly for treatment decisions. Within the mixed type, stromal and teratoid variants are identified.²⁵

There is a strong relationship between HCC and preexistent hepatic disease or cirrhosis. Fibrolamellar HCC is a variant found in approximately one third of pediatric HCC and typically in cases without preexisting liver disease.²⁵ This variant has sometimes been reported to have a higher rate of resectability and improved clinical outcome, though this was not supported by the Pediatric Intergroup Hepatoma INT-0098 results.²⁶

Clinical Manifestations, Patient Evaluation, and Staging

The majority of children with PMLTs present with a painless right upper quadrant abdominal mass. Additional findings may include abdominal enlargement, pain, anorexia with associated weight loss, nausea, emesis, fever, and jaundice.

Initial evaluation consists of abdominal ultrasound with characteristic findings of a solid intrahepatic mass. Subsequent evaluation should include dual-phase CT of the abdomen and pelvis or axial and coronal MRI with gadolinium at arterial, portal venous, and equilibrium phases. CT of the chest is also required because lung metastases are present in approximately 20% of HBL cases and 30% of HCC cases. Bone scan is reserved for symptomatic patients.^{27–29} Laboratory evaluation includes: complete blood count (CBC), differential, platelets, urinalysis, electrolytes including calcium, phosphate, magnesium, creatinine, ALT/AST, bilirubin and total protein/albumin. Alpha-fetoprotein (AFP) is elevated in approximately 90% of patients with HBL and between 60% and 80% of patients with HCC.^{28,30} AFP levels less than 100 ng/mL have been associated with poor prognosis.

PMLTs of childhood are typically staged using the Children's Oncology Group Staging system (Table 75-1) and the PRETEXT surgical staging system (Figure 75-1). The PRETEXT staging is based on the number and relative locations of involved liver segments on preoperative imaging. The left lobe of the liver consists of a lateral sector (segments 2 and 3) and a medial sector (segment 4), whereas the right lobe is divided in an anterior sector (segments 5 and 8) and a posterior sector (segments 6 and 7). The number of affected liver

TABLE 75-1 Children's Oncology Group Staging System for Hepatoblastoma

Stage	Description
I	Completely resected localized tumors
II	Grossly resected tumors with microscopic residual tumor
III	Unresectable tumors (measurable residual tumor or abdominal lymph node involvement)
IV	Distant metastases

From Schnater JM, Kohler SE, Lamers WH, et al: Where do we stand with hepatoblastoma? A review. *Cancer* 98:668–678, 2003.

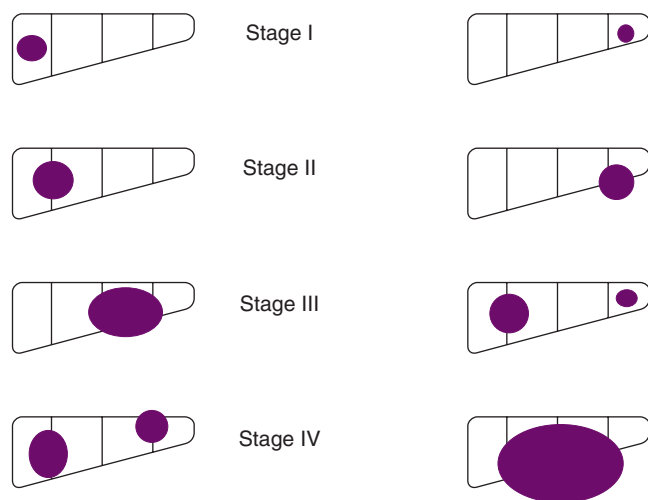


Figure 75-1 PRETEXT surgical staging system for hepatoblastoma. Adapted from Schnater JM, Aronson DC, Plaschkes J, et al: *Surgical view of the treatment of patients with hepatoblastoma. Results from the first prospective trial of the International Society of Pediatric Oncology Liver Tumor Study Group. Cancer* 94:1111–1120, 2001.

sectors determines the PRETEXT category.²⁷ Staging using the same criteria applied after two to four cycles of chemotherapy is referred to as POST-TEXT. Additional staging notations can be made for involvement of the vena cava or all three hepatic veins (+V), involvement of the portal vein bifurcation or both right and left portal veins (+P), involvement of the caudate lobe (+C), extrahepatic contiguous tumor (+E), and distant metastatic disease (+M).

Primary and Adjuvant Therapy and Results

Surgical resection is the primary treatment modality for PMLTs of childhood and provides the only potential for cure. Approximately half of patients with HBL are able to undergo complete resection at the time of diagnosis. Because HBL is highly chemosensitive, many patients are treated with neoadjuvant chemotherapy, which increases resectability to approximately 75%. Patients with HBL undergoing complete resection have an event-free survival (EFS) of approximately 90%.

The SIOPEL-1 trial reported by the International Society of Paediatric Oncology (SIOP) evaluated the use of four to six courses of preoperative cisplatin and doxorubicin. Eighty-two percent of patients showed at least a partial response and 77% achieved complete resection. The 5-year EFS and OS were 66% and 75%, respectively.²⁹ The third study of the International Society of Paediatric Oncology Epithelial Liver Tumor Group (SIOPEL-3) randomized patients to cisplatin alone versus cisplatin plus doxorubicin for three cycles preoperatively, followed by two postoperative cycles in children with HBL involving three or fewer liver segments and an alpha-fetoprotein level greater than 100 ng/mL. Outcomes at 3 years were identical: 95% and 93% underwent complete resection in the respective chemotherapy arms, and OS was 95% and 93%, respectively. Grade-3 and grade-4 toxicities were significantly more common in the combination arm.³¹

An analysis of stage I pure fetal histology (PFH) HBL treated with complete surgical resection only on Children's Oncology Group Study P9645 showed all patients free of disease at a median follow-up of 4.9 years.²⁶

Children with HCC on the SIOPEL-1 trial presented with more advanced disease and fared significantly worse than patients with HBL. Partial response to neoadjuvant chemotherapy was seen in 49%, and complete resection was

achieved in only 36%; 5-year OS and EFS were 28% and 17%, respectively.²⁸ The Pediatric Intergroup Hepatoma Protocol INT-0098 randomized patients with HCC to postoperative cisplatin/vincristine/5-fluorouracil versus cisplatin and doxorubicin. There was no difference in outcome between the treatment regimens, and the overall 5-year EFS was 17% (75% for stage I, 8% for stage II, and 0% for stage IV).²⁸ Subsequent SIOPEL studies evaluated a regimen of cisplatin and carboplatin, with no substantial improvement in outcome.²⁸

The current COG study reduces chemotherapy for patients with low-risk disease with stage I non-pure fetal histology, non-SCU HBL or stage II non-SCU HBL to two adjuvant cycles of cisplatin, 5-fluorouracil and vincristine (C5V). Intermediate-risk cases with stage I SCU, stage II SCU, or any stage III are given six cycles of C5V + doxorubicin (C5VD).

Locally Advanced Disease and Palliation

Patients with high-risk HBL include those with stage IV disease as well as patients with any stage of HBL or initial AFP under 100 ng/mL. The Pediatric Oncology Group study 9345 treated children with unresectable or metastatic HBL with neoadjuvant carboplatin and C5VD, followed by surgery when feasible, or with high-dose cisplatin and etoposide. Thirty-six percent of patients with stage IV disease were able to undergo subsequent resection. For patients able to undergo resection, 5-years EFS was 79%.³² The recent SIOPEL-4 trial was a single-arm prospective study for high-risk HBL using neoadjuvant dose-dense cisplatin plus doxorubicin. This approach yielded good outcomes with 74% of children able to undergo complete resection and an 83% 3-year OS.³³ Other approaches include orthotopic liver transplantation when disease is unresectable, with documented long-term survival in a limited number of patients.^{27,32}

The approach for patients with metastatic disease uses neoadjuvant chemotherapy followed by surgery, if possible, and consideration of metastectomy if local control is achievable. For patients considered for orthotopic liver transplantation, radiographic clearance of metastatic disease must be confirmed before transplant.

Irradiation Techniques

RT is infrequently used in the treatment of PMLTs. Habrand et al used doses of 25 Gy to 45 Gy in conjunction with chemotherapy in a heterogeneous group of 15 patients; 11 with documented HBL, 2 with HCC, and 2 with unknown pathology. Those with inoperable HBL or minimal (<2 cm) disease postoperatively showed a possible benefit of radiotherapy. No benefit was seen for patients with HCC.³⁴ There are few current indications for hepatic irradiation or treatment beyond palliation to metastatic sites with HBL or HCC. The current Children's Oncology Group HBL study specifically excludes use of RT. It is clear that the RT dose ranges noted previously are less than those now known to be necessary in adults with HCC. Modern techniques of respiratory gating and stereotactic techniques may provide for additional options for RT of pediatric liver tumors in select cases.

Treatment Algorithms, Controversies, Challenges, and Future Possibilities

The cornerstone of treatment for PMLTs is surgical resection. Most children are treated with neoadjuvant and adjuvant platinum-based chemotherapy because of bulky disease. Orthotopic liver transplantation can provide cures for selected patients in whom resection is not possible. Investigational treatments for HBL include chemoembolization, stereotactic

radiosurgery to focal liver lesions, angiogenesis inhibitors, and biologic agents.

PEDIATRIC EXTRACRANIAL GERM CELL TUMORS

Etiology and Epidemiology

Germ cell tumors (GCTs) can be either malignant or benign and are thought to arise from primitive germ cells that fail to undergo complete differentiation. These tumors are found within the ovary and testis, but also among midline structures such as the sacrococcygeal region, retroperitoneum, mediastinum, and the pineal gland. The rationale for their distribution is attributed to embryologic development as cells migrate from the allantoic stock to the genital ridge, coming to rest as the genitalia.³⁵

GCTs account for approximately 3% of all pediatric malignancies³⁵ and are the most common malignancy in neonates.³⁶ The overall incidence of GCTs is higher in females, but males are more at risk for malignant GCTs.³⁷ A bimodal age distribution is noted with peaks at 2 and 20 years of age.

Prevention and Early Detection

Several risk factors have been identified for these rare tumors. Intersex disorders of pseudohermaphroditism, androgen insensitivity, and 5 α -reductase deficiency are associated with risk of gonadoblastoma, which can transform into GCT.³⁸ Undescended testis increases the incidence of testicular GCT to 30 to 50 times the incidence in the general population. This risk is even higher for intraabdominal testis.³⁹⁻⁴¹

Biologic Characteristics and Molecular Biology

Pediatric GCTs are genetically distinct from adult GCTs. More than 80% of adult GCTs have isochromosome 12p and many of the remaining display amplification of 12p. These are infrequently observed abnormalities in pediatric GCTs,⁴²⁻⁴⁴ where aberrations on chromosome 1 and 6 are more commonly identified.^{43,44}

Pathology and Pathways of Spread

GCTs comprise a spectrum of entities from benign to malignant, with elements of multiple histologic types present in 25% of cases.⁴⁵ The most common pediatric GCT is the teratoma, which is composed of tissue from more than one embryonic layer. Teratomas can be either mature, consisting of well-differentiated tissues, or immature, consisting of immature elements (most commonly neuroepithelial tissue).

Yolk sac or endodermal sinus tumors are highly malignant, occur most commonly in the ovary, testis, and sacrococcygeal region and secrete alpha-fetoprotein. Histologically they show

classic perivascular formations called Schiller-Duval bodies. Embryonal carcinomas are composed of large, pleomorphic undifferentiated cells. They often occur in combination with endodermal sinus tumors. Choriocarcinomas are rare tumors composed of malignant cytotrophoblasts and syncytiotrophoblasts. They typically secrete β -human chorionic gonadotropin. All three of these GCT types are highly undifferentiated tumors with the propensity to metastasize to lung, liver, bone, and lymph nodes. In a series of 95 patients with sacrococcygeal endodermal sinus tumors,⁴⁵ 15% had positive lymph nodes at diagnosis and 35% had distant metastases.

Tumors of undifferentiated germ epithelium are named according to the site of origin: seminomas originate in the testis, dysgerminomas in the ovary, and germinomas in the brain. Seminoma and dysgerminoma are infrequent in childhood.

Clinical Manifestations, Patient Evaluations, and Staging

Clinical manifestations of GCTs are largely dependent on the location of the tumor. The most common location for pediatric extracranial GCTs is the sacrococcygeal region, and because of their early presentation, they may sometimes be identified by fetal ultrasound. Older children more commonly present with large pelvic masses, with malignant degeneration often seen in children over 6 months to 12 months of age. The ovaries, testes, and mediastinum are also common sites, but GCTs can occur in the retroperitoneum, neck, stomach, and vagina as well. Laboratory evaluation includes complete blood count with differential, urinalysis, tumor markers (AFP, β -human chorionic gonadotropin, lactic dehydrogenase, CA-125), electrolytes, creatinine, bilirubin, ALT, alkaline phosphatase, total protein, albumin, phosphorus, magnesium, and calcium. Diagnostic imaging should include chest/abdomen/pelvis CT or MRI and often bone scan. Tumor marker profiles are indicative of different histologies as noted in Table 75-2.

Sacrococcygeal tumors are staged according to the Altman classification. Type I tumors are predominantly external projecting from the sacrococcygeal region and presenting with distortion of the buttocks. Type II tumors are predominantly external but also have a large intrapelvic component. Type III tumors are predominantly intrapelvic with a small external component, and Type IV tumors are entirely internal with no external or buttock component.⁴⁶

Other GCTs are staged according to their site of origin as defined by the Children's Cancer Group and Pediatric Oncology Group staging system outlined in Table 75-3.

Primary Therapy, Adjuvant Therapy, and Results

Primary therapy is dictated by the resectability of the presenting lesion as well as the histology and thus anticipated response to adjuvant therapy options. For most malignant tumors a multidisciplinary approach combining surgery and

TABLE 75-2 Profiles of Germ Cell Tumor Histologies

	AFP	β -HCG	Chemosensitivity	Radiosensitivity
Teratoma				
Mature	—	—	—	—
Immature	—/+	—	—	—
Endodermal sinus tumor	+++	—	+++	—
Choriocarcinoma	—	+++	+++	—
Embryonal carcinoma	—	—	—	—
Seminoma/germinoma	—	+	+++	+++

TABLE 75-3 Children's Cancer Group and Pediatric Oncology Group Staging System for Pediatric Germ Cell Tumors

Stage	Description
OVARIAN	
I	Limited to ovary (ovaries), peritoneal washings negative, tumor markers normal after appropriate half-life
II	Microscopic residual or positive lymph nodes (<2 cm), peritoneal washing negative, tumor markers positive or negative
III	Lymph node involvement >2 cm, gross residual disease, biopsy only, contiguous visceral involvement, peritoneal washings positive, tumor markers positive or negative
IV	Distant metastases
TESTICULAR	
I	Limited to testis, tumor marker normal after appropriate half-life, completely resected with high inguinal orchiectomy
II	Transscrotal orchiectomy, microscopic disease in scrotum or high in spermatic cord, retroperitoneal lymph node <2 cm, increased tumor marker after appropriate half-life
III	Retroperitoneal lymph node >2 cm, no visceral or extraabdominal involvement
IV	Distant metastases
EXTRAGONADAL	
I	Complete resection at any site, negative margins, coccygectomy for sacrococcygeal sites
II	Microscopic residual, lymph nodes negative
III	Gross residual or biopsy only, regional lymph nodes positive or negative
IV	Distant metastases

cisplatin-based chemotherapy (often similar to the adult PEB regimen of cisplatin, etoposide, and bleomycin) is standard.

Sacrococcygeal teratomas are approached with the goal to preserve the levator ani musculature and external sphincter using an inverted-V incision. Inadequate surgery has proven deleterious with a 37% local recurrence rate if the coccyx is spared inappropriately.⁴⁷

Ovarian GCTs are chemosensitive and a conservative surgical approach is usually indicated. Resection of the primary tumor sparing the fallopian tube if possible is combined with collection of ascites and examination and palpation of the peritoneal surfaces, retroperitoneal lymph nodes, omentum, and the contralateral ovary.⁴⁸ These fertility-sparing approaches have cure rates of approximately 95% with 80% of patients preserving reproductive function.⁴⁹

Testicular tumors are removed via a high inguinal incision with high inguinal orchiectomy performed for malignant lesions and a more conservative tumor enucleation for teratoma.

Adjuvant therapy for extracranial GCTs is based on the stage, degree of resection, and histologic subtype (Table 75-4). Observation is recommended following resection of mature and immature teratomas with reported survivals of 82% to 100%.⁴⁷

Resection of sacrococcygeal tumors with negative margins provides cure rates in excess of 90%, though this falls to 75% to 85% in the setting of microscopically involved margins, and 40% for macroscopic residual tumor.⁵⁰ There is minimal guidance for the use of RT in the adjuvant setting. A dose of ≥45 Gy

TABLE 75-4 General Treatment Guidelines for Extracranial Germ Cell Tumors

LOW-RISK DISEASE	
All teratomas	Surgery and observation
Stage I gonadal	
Stage I extragonadal	
INTERMEDIATE-RISK DISEASE	
Stages II-IV gonadal	Surgery with adjuvant chemotherapy
Stage II extragonadal	
HIGH-RISK DISEASE	
Stages III-IV extragonadal	Surgery with adjuvant chemotherapy
INITIAL UNRESECTABLE OR BIOPSY ONLY	Neoadjuvant chemotherapy followed by second surgery, followed by adjuvant chemotherapy for residual pathologic disease

appears reasonable based on a report by Schneider et al.⁵¹ Platinum-based chemotherapy has been advocated for patients with recurrent immature teratomas based on the POG 9048/CCG 8891 trial. Four of five patients with recurrence were rendered disease-free using this salvage approach.⁵²

Locally Advanced Disease and Palliation

With a primary goal of resection, bulky and locally invasive disease is treated with neoadjuvant chemotherapy followed by surgery or second-look surgery as appropriate.

The POG 9049/CCG 8882 trial⁵³ randomized patients with stages III and IV gonadal and stages I to IV extragonadal GCTs to high-dose PEB versus standard-dose PEB with a 6-year EFS of 89.6% versus 80.5% but no benefit in OS. Progressive and metastatic GCTs often respond to cisplatin, paclitaxel, and ifosfamide regimens.⁵³ The COG AGCT0521 study used the regimen with carboplatin substituted for cisplatin with the goal to improve the toxicity profile. The addition of hyperthermia to resection for relapsed disease is being explored.⁵⁴

Irradiation Techniques

The role of RT for GCTs has diminished significantly owing to the effectiveness of current chemotherapy regimens. RT is now used only in the setting of unresectable disease that is unresponsive to chemotherapy or in the setting of relapse. Radiation doses of ≥40 Gy are typically used.⁵¹

Treatment Algorithms, Controversies, Challenges, and Future Possibilities

Surgical resection is the first line of treatment with chemotherapy given neoadjuvantly to achieve this goal when possible and in cases of recurrent or metastatic disease. PEB chemotherapy is the currently recommended regimen for patients presenting as locally advanced or metastatic tumor with OS approaching 75%. Because of the high curability of these tumors, current protocols are seeking to decrease toxicity of therapy using algorithms based on histology, site, stage, and genetic aberrations to provide risk-adapted therapy.

JUVENILE NASOPHARYNGEAL ANGIOFIBROMA

Etiology and Epidemiology

Juvenile nasopharyngeal angiofibroma (JNA) is a highly vascular tumor that is histologically benign but locally invasive.

JNA occurs almost exclusively in adolescent boys and young adult men, suggesting a prominent hormonal role in the tumor's etiology; the average age at diagnosis is 17 years.^{55,56} The incidence of this tumor is approximately 3.7 per million in the population at risk.⁵⁷ There is an increased incidence of JNA in patients with familial adenomatous polyposis, suggesting a connection to the β -catenin pathway.⁵⁸

Biologic Characteristics and Molecular Biology

Both androgen and estrogen receptors have been demonstrated in JNAs.^{59,60} Recently, estrogen beta-adrenergic receptors have been found in a high percentage of JNAs. Schlauder et al⁶⁰ have postulated that the presence of aromatase in tumor cells converts endogenous androgens to estrogens, causing tumor growth via an autocrine-like mechanism.⁶¹ Most tumors stain for vascular endothelial growth factor, and approximately 40% have a GSTM1 mutation.⁶²

Pathology and Pathways of Spread

JNA is a benign tumor, although its exact nature is controversial. Some have suggested that it is a vascular hamartoma and similar to a hemangioma,⁶³ but others believe it is neoplastic.⁶⁴ Histologically, tumors are composed of fibrous connective tissue with abundant endothelium-lined vascular spaces.⁶³ Localization of β -catenin to tumor stromal cells suggests these may be the neoplastic component rather than the endothelial cells.⁶⁵ Tumors typically arise from the superior margin of the sphenopalatine foramen and invade laterally through the pterygomaxillary fissure toward the infratemporal fossa.⁵⁵ Intracranial extension is seen in up to a third of cases, although actual dural invasion is uncommon.^{66,67} Tumors can be locally invasive of bone and extend into the parapharyngeal spaces, paranasal sinuses, orbit, and base of skull. This pattern of spread predicts for a high risk of local recurrence.⁶⁷ Blood supply is primarily from the internal maxillary arteries of the external carotid system.

Clinical Manifestations, Patient Evaluation, and Staging

Presenting symptoms include recurrent painless spontaneous epistaxis, nasal obstruction, nasal discharge, a reduced sense of smell, snoring, headache, cranial nerve palsies, and facial swelling.⁵⁶ Angiography is essential to define the tumor's blood supply for planning surgery and, typically, for preoperative embolization to decrease surgical blood loss. There are usually multiple tortuous feeding vessels with a dense, homogeneous blush in the capillary phase.⁶⁸ CT and MRI help define the anatomic extent of the enhancing tumor. Distant metastases do not occur, so systemic evaluation is not required. Biopsy can be hazardous owing to the tumor's vascularity; not all authors require biopsy confirmation before treatment if clinical and radiographic data are consistent with the diagnosis.⁶⁹

Several staging systems have been proposed (Table 75-5). Most are designed to guide decisions regarding the resectability and optimal surgical approach to the tumor rather than to predict prognosis.⁶⁹⁻⁷³

Primary and Adjuvant Therapy and Results

Surgical removal, often preceded by tumor embolization, is the primary treatment for JNA. A craniofacial approach is used for locally advanced tumors. Endoscopic techniques have less morbidity and are effective for earlier-stage lesions.⁵⁵

TABLE 75-5 Staging Systems for Juvenile Nasopharyngeal Angiofibroma

ANDREWS STAGING SYSTEM⁶⁶	
Stage I	Tumor limited to the nasal cavity and nasopharynx
Stage II	Tumor extension into the pterygopalatine fossa, or maxillary, sphenoidal, or ethmoidal sinuses
Stage IIIa	Extension into the orbit or infratemporal fossa without intracranial extension
Stage IIIb	Stage IIIa with minimal extradural intracranial extension
Stage IVa	Extensive extradural intracranial or intradural extension
Stage IVb	Extension into cavernous sinus, pituitary, or optic chiasm
CARRILLO STAGING SYSTEM⁶⁴	
Stage I	Tumor limited to nasopharynx, nasal fossae, maxillary antrum, anterior ethmoid cells, and sphenoidal sinus
Stage IIa	Invasion to pterygomaxillary fossae or infratemporal fossae anterior to pterygoid plates, with major diameter <6 cm
Stage IIb	Invasion to pterygomaxillary fossae or infratemporal fossae anterior to pterygoid plates, with major diameter \geq 6 cm
Stage III	Invasion to infratemporal fossae posterior to pterygoid plates or posterior ethmoid cells
Stage IV	Extensive skull base invasion >2 cm or intracranial invasion
CHANDLER STAGING SYSTEM⁶⁷	
Stage I	Tumor confined to the nasopharynx
Stage II	Tumor extending into the nasal cavity or sphenoidal sinus
Stage III	Tumor involvement of one or more of the maxillary or ethmoidal sinuses, pterygomaxillary and infratemporal fossae, and orbit or cheek
Stage IV	Tumor extending into the cranial cavity
FISCH STAGING SYSTEM⁶⁵	
Type I	Tumor limited to the nasopharynx and nasal cavity with no bone destruction
Type II	Tumors invading the pterygomaxillary fossa and the maxillary, ethmoidal, and sphenoidal sinuses with bone destruction
Type III	Tumors invading the infratemporal fossa, orbit, and parasellar region remaining lateral to the cavernous sinus
Type IV	Tumors with massive invasion of the cavernous sinus, optic chiasmal region, or pituitary fossa

Gross total removal is usually curative.⁶⁶ A number of cases prove not to be amenable to complete resection; depending on case selection, there is a rate of local recurrence after surgery that approximates 20% to 40%, with most recurrences occurring in large, incompletely resected lesions.^{55,56} Moderate doses of RT may be indicated for postoperative residual tumor, although observation is more often considered because spontaneous involution of tumor is a well-recognized phenomenon.^{74,75} Most recurrences present within a year of surgery. The risk of recurrence is greatest in patients with large tumors that erode the skull base, young age at presentation, and irradiated tumors that are slow to regress.^{68,76} There are

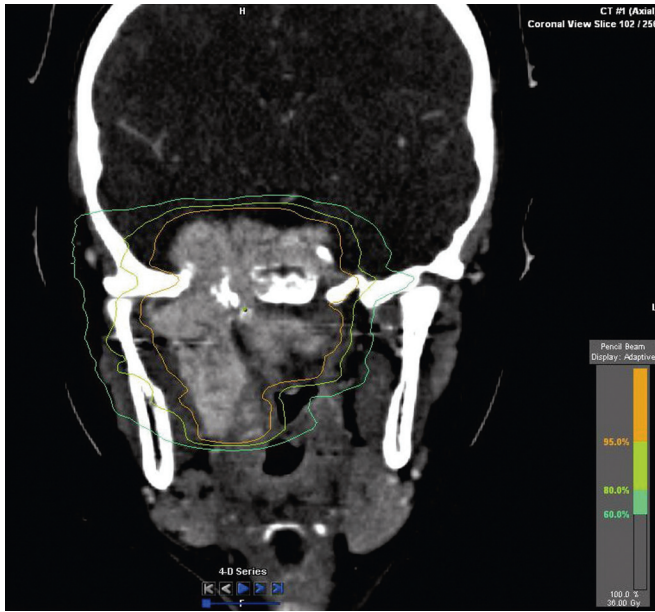


Figure 75-2 Intensity-modulated radiation therapy (IMRT) isodose plan for a patient with juvenile nasopharyngeal angiofibroma.

currently no indications for adjuvant chemotherapy after initial resection.

Locally Advanced Disease and Palliation

RT can provide effective control for recurrent or large, unresectable tumors. Objective tumor response after RT is typically slow, but ultimate control rates range from 75% to 92%; 90% of responders have no residual tumor 3 years after treatment.⁷⁸ Given the strong association of JNA with hormonal receptors, there has been interest in hormonal manipulation for patients with advanced disease. Diethylstilbestrol and flutamide have been used, but results have been inconsistent.^{68,79,80} A recent trial supports the use of flutamide in postpubertal patients with 13 of 15 patients showing a partial radiographic response to this agent.⁸¹ Case reports of chemotherapy for recurrent tumor show efficacy for doxorubicin, dactinomycin, vincristine, cyclophosphamide, and cisplatin in selected patients.⁸²⁻⁸⁴

Techniques of Irradiation

No radiation dose-response curve has been reported for JNA. Local control rates greater than 80% are seen with doses ranging from 30 Gy to 50 Gy,^{69,85-89} and a dose of 36 Gy is commonly used. Intensity-modulated RT (IMRT) techniques provide high conformality for sparing of normal structures (Figure 75-2). Stereotactic radiosurgery using single doses of 17 Gy to 20 Gy and hypofractionated RT using 45 Gy in three fractions have been reported effective in small series of patients.⁹⁰

Treatment Algorithms, Controversies, Challenges, and Future Possibilities

Preoperative embolization is followed by maximal surgical resection. Postoperative residual tumor can be observed or treated with RT. Recurrent tumor can be managed with RT. Hormonal manipulation and cytotoxic chemotherapy may be tried for recurrent, refractory disease. The elevated levels of vascular endothelial growth factors in these tumors suggest a potential role for inhibitors of angiogenesis.⁹¹

PLEUROPULMONARY BLASTOMA

Etiology and Epidemiology

Pleuropulmonary blastoma (PPB) is a dysontogenetic neoplasm of childhood that originates in the lung or pleura.⁹² Although rare, it is the most common primary lung tumor in children.⁹³ It is analogous to other dysontogenetic tumors such as Wilms' tumor, neuroblastoma, and hepatoblastoma.⁹⁴

PPB is thought to progress through a distinct sequence of clinical and pathologic changes beginning as a relatively non-aggressive cystic lesion and subsequently developing into the more malignant mixed cystic/solid and purely solid morphologies.⁹⁵ Median age at presentation is 3 years.⁹⁶ Younger children typically present with predominantly cystic tumors, whereas older children are more likely to have significant solid components.⁹⁷ Boys and girls are equally affected.⁹⁷ Siblings of patients with PPB have a higher incidence of PPB than the general population, and mutations of in *DICER1* have been found in many of these families.⁹⁸ There is also an increased incidence of other types of dysplasia and neoplasia in relatives of children with PPB.⁹⁹

Prevention and Early Detection

The incidence of PPB in apparently benign lung lesions such as congenital cystic adenomatoid malformations is approximately 4%.¹⁰⁰ However, cystic PPB is clinically indistinguishable from benign cysts, and some authors recommend excision of all such lesions.¹⁰¹ Further supporting this approach is evidence that PPB can arise de novo from lung cysts, so that resection of these "precancerous" lesions is indicated.^{102,103} Others advocate a policy of watchful waiting for purely cystic lesions, only intervening if radiographic changes suggest progression.

Biologic Characteristics and Molecular Biology

Germline mutations of *DICER1*, a gene coding for an endonuclease involved in regulation of mesenchymal proliferation, have been identified in families affected by PPB.⁹⁸ *TP53* mutations have been described in PPB and may portend a worse prognosis.¹⁰⁴ Polysomy of chromosome 8 has also been noted.¹⁰⁵

Pathology and Pathways of Spread

Histologically, PPB has small, primitive blastemal cells separated by an uncommitted sarcomatous stroma.^{94,97,106} Tumor cells stain with vimentin and may show myogenic differentiation.⁹³ Rhabdomyoblasts and cartilage nodules are reported in 40% to 50% of patients.¹⁰¹

Tumors usually arise in the lung parenchyma. Spread to contiguous structures such as the mediastinum and pleura is associated with a poorer prognosis. Invasion into the chest wall is uncommon.¹⁰⁷ Hematogenous metastases occur, most often to the brain. In one series,⁹² the incidence of brain metastases was 11% in mixed cystic/solid tumors and 54% in purely solid tumors.

Clinical Manifestations, Patient Evaluation, and Staging

Presenting symptoms of PPB include cough, dyspnea, wheezing, symptoms of respiratory infection, and occasionally, spontaneous pneumothorax. Chest CT usually reveals a heterogeneous low-attenuation mass with pleural effusion and

mediastinal shift.¹⁰⁷ Differential diagnosis includes rhabdomyosarcoma, Askin tumor, and nonrhabdoid sarcomas; examination of the cystic fluid or solid tumor is required to make a diagnosis. Bone scintigraphy and MRI of the brain should be performed for staging, especially for tumors with a significant solid component.

PPB has no anatomic staging system but is classified into three morphologic types that have prognostic significance. Type I consists of purely cystic tumors, type III lesions are solid tumors, and type II have mixed cystic and solid components.¹⁰⁸ Both type II and type III tumors have significantly poorer prognosis than type I, with an incidence of distant metastases at diagnosis approximating 30%.⁹⁶ A fourth type, type Ir (type I, regressed), has been described for cystic lesions without a neoplastic component, hypothesized to have “regressed” from an earlier type I PPB, or alternatively, represent a genetically determined lung cyst that has not yet evolved along a dysplastic path.¹⁰⁹

Primary and Adjuvant Therapy and Results

Surgery is the cornerstone of management, although most patients cannot undergo gross total resections owing to involvement of critical structures.^{96,106} Neoadjuvant chemotherapy can be used in large tumors to render the tumor resectable; adjuvant chemotherapy is often given postoperatively to patients with types II and III tumors. Chemotherapy may improve survival in type I tumors,^{95,109} although it is not generally recommended if the tumor is completely resected.⁹⁶ Drug regimens parallel those used for other pediatric sarcomas and include ifosfamide/carboplatin/etoposide (ICE regimen), and ifosfamide/vincristine/dactinomycin (Actinomycin-D)/doxorubicin (IVADO regimen). Other active drugs include irinotecan¹¹⁰ and cisplatin.⁹⁷ RT may be indicated in unresectable tumors, although large treatment volumes and young patient age often hinder the use of this modality.¹¹¹ Five-year survival rates are approximately 80% for patients with type I tumors and 45% for patients with types II and III.^{96,97,106}

Locally Advanced Disease and Palliation

In patients who experience a recurrence, local relapse is somewhat more common than distant failure.⁹⁶ When type I tumors recur, they usually recur as types II or III.^{95,101} Re-resection should be performed when possible, but second-line chemotherapy is often the primary treatment owing to the extent of disease. RT may be useful for brain metastases and palliation of painful bone lesions.

Irradiation Techniques

Fractionated external beam RT using a dose of 44 Gy has been recommended for incompletely resected tumors, although its role in local control is difficult to assess.^{96,106} Normal tissue tolerances may preclude this amount of irradiation; use of a lesser dose may be required in circumstances in which volume and dose exceed organ tolerance. Microscopic margins were controlled in one case report using 36 Gy,⁹⁷ but local recurrence was reported after 30 Gy in 10 fractions in a patient with gross tumor.¹¹² Intracavitary phosphorus-32 has also been used and may contribute to local control in selected patients.¹⁰⁶

Treatment Algorithms, Controversies, Challenges, and Future Possibilities

Initial resection is performed if possible. Neoadjuvant chemotherapy is used when initially unresectable, followed by delayed surgery. Adjuvant chemotherapy is indicated for most

patients. RT should be considered for microscopic or gross residual tumor after surgery. Children should be followed with chest CT at 3-month to 6-month intervals for 2 to 3 years.

HEMANGIOMAS AND LYMPHANGIOMAS

Etiology and Epidemiology

Although often considered together, hemangiomas and lymphangiomas are clinically and histologically distinct entities. Many semidescriptive terms have been applied to these lesions (especially the cutaneous hemangiomas), contributing to confusion regarding their study and management. Synonyms for cutaneous hemangioma include “neonatal stain,” “stork bite,” “salmon patch,” “spider angioma,” and “strawberry angioma.”

Hemangiomas occur in about 1% of infants, most often during the first few months of life, with about a third of these presenting in the head and neck.¹¹³ Lymphangiomas are much less common, with an incidence between 1 in 6,000 and 1 in 16,000 live births.¹¹⁴ Half are congenital; 90% are evident before the age of 2 years. Three fourths of lymphangiomas occur in the neck or head areas.

Pathology and Pathways of Spread

Hemangiomas consist of thin-walled vessels lined by endothelial cells and a discontinuous layer of pericytes and reticular fibers.¹¹⁵ They have been reported to occur in a wide variety of locations, including the skin, liver, bone, central nervous system (CNS), bladder, trachea, and other soft tissues.¹¹⁶ Lymphangiomas are dilated endothelial-lined lymph channels with thick walls containing smooth muscle.¹¹⁷ Lymphangiomas can involve the skin, skeletal tissue, spleen, liver, mediastinum, or lung.¹¹⁸ Hemangiomas and lymphangiomas classically are malformations or low-grade and benign neoplasms with no capacity for metastasis.

Clinical Manifestations, Patient Evaluation, and Staging

Hemangiomas are classified as capillary, cavernous, or mixed, depending on the size of the vessels involved. When they involve the skin, capillary hemangiomas are often raised, circumscribed red lesions. They usually present early in the first year of life, and the great majority undergo spontaneous involution over the subsequent years. They are distinct from vascular malformations such as port-wine stains, which do not regress.¹¹³ Clinical manifestations of hemangiomas are largely dependent on the location of the lesion and can include cosmetic deformity, functional impairment, airway obstruction, bleeding, infection, and high-output cardiac failure. Kasabach-Merritt syndrome describes a giant hemangioma causing thrombocytopenia due to consumption coagulopathy.

Lymphangiomas are also categorized according to the size of the abnormal lymph vessels. Lymphangioma circumscriptum contains relatively small-caliber lymph channels and is usually superficial in location. Cystic hygroma or cavernous lymphangioma consists of large, cystic areas of lymph fluid arising in deeper tissues. Unlike hemangiomas, lymphangiomas do not tend to regress spontaneously and may enlarge during adolescence.¹¹⁹ Symptoms of lymphangiomas can include disfigurement, pain, infection, and complications of chronic lymph secretion. Lymphangiomas occurring in the mediastinum may cause chylothorax, which can be life threatening.

Classification schemes have been proposed for these lesions, but there is no widely accepted staging system.^{115,120}

Primary and Adjuvant Therapy and Results

RT was the mainstay of therapy for both hemangiomas and lymphangiomas through the early 1950s and, in some centers, into the 1970s. Subsequently, the use of RT has been all but abandoned as the natural history of spontaneous involution of hemangiomas was recognized and the late morbidities of RT were reported.¹²¹

Spontaneous involution will occur in 95% of capillary hemangiomas over the course of several years; most require no treatment.¹²² Cavernous hemangiomas do not usually regress spontaneously and require treatment if symptomatic.¹¹⁵ For symptomatic hemangiomas, topical or intralesional corticosteroids are often the first line of treatment.¹²³ Systemic corticosteroids are also effective.¹¹³ Surgical resection is an effective treatment in appropriate circumstances. Other treatments include interferon, laser ablation, cryotherapy, compression, electrocautery, and embolization. Other pharmacologic interventions include antiangiogenic and antifibrinolytic agents. Irradiation for hemangiomas with life-threatening complications can be performed and is often effective, with improvement or resolution occurring in more than 80% of patients.^{116,124}

Surgical removal of lymphangiomas is curative, although can be cosmetically or functionally morbid in many anatomic sites. Sclerotherapy using agents such as OK-432 or bleomycin is a common nonsurgical treatment, with complete responses seen in about 40% of patients and partial responses in another 40% to 45%.¹¹⁴ Other nonsurgical therapies include diathermy, cryotherapy, and interferon alfa-2b.¹¹⁸ RT has also been used with some efficacy in selected patients.^{119,125-127}

Locally Advanced Disease and Palliation

Mortality from Kasabach–Merritt syndrome can exceed 10%. Large hemangiomas causing coagulopathy or cardiac failure require aggressive treatment.¹²⁸ RT may be useful when other modalities fail.¹²⁹ Fractionated RT to doses of 10 Gy to 20 Gy has been effective in these life-threatening situations.^{116,124,128,129} Tumors such as lymphangiosarcoma and malignant hemoendothelioma are highly aggressive neoplasms and require multimodality treatment (Figure 75-3).^{130,131}

Irradiation Techniques

Although the efficacy of RT for these conditions is well established, the availability of other effective treatments and the concern for late effects of irradiation in this young patient



Figure 75-3 Lymphangiosarcoma in a 16-year-old girl arising from a preexisting lymphangioma. The patient's pain and chylous effusion were effectively palliated using 30-Gy radiotherapy. Arrow references primary site evident by bony erosion.

population appropriately limit RT to a seldom-used option today.^{122,132} No definite dose-response relationship has been established for the treatment of hemangiomas, and fractionated radiation doses ranging from 3 Gy to 40 Gy have been recommended.^{116,128} Braun-Falco et al¹²² reported a large series of patients with hemangiomas; most were treated with fractionated radiation doses between 12 Gy and 25 Gy. Responses were seen in 73% of patients, with complete responses in 50%. Some have reported good results, with lower doses of 3 Gy to 11 Gy,¹³³ although others recommend a dose of at least 25 Gy.¹³⁴ Partial improvement after RT can often be noted within a few weeks, but maximum response can take several months to years.

Lymphangioma has been successfully treated with 10 Gy to 20 Gy of fractionated RT.^{119,126,127} Responses can be seen much more quickly in lymphangiomas than in hemangiomas.

Treatment Algorithms, Controversies, Challenges, and Future Possibilities

Observation is usually indicated for hemangiomas. When treatment is required, corticosteroids or locally ablative treatment such as surgery or embolization can be used, as well as systemic agents. RT may be indicated for life-threatening situations. Lymphangioma is usually treated with surgical resection or sclerosing agents such as OK-432. RT, again, is reserved for life-threatening circumstances.

DESMOPLASTIC SMALL ROUND CELL TUMOR

Etiology and Epidemiology

Desmoplastic small round cell tumor (DSRCT) is a rare disease diagnosed in children and young adults at a median age of 22 years (range, 6 years to 49 years). DSRCT was first described by Gerald et al and Park et al in 1991.^{135,136} There is a strong male to female predilection ranging from 5:1 to 20:1.¹³⁷ Approximately 200 cases have been reported in the literature.^{135,138}

Biologic Characteristics and Molecular Biology

A t(11;22)(p13;q12) translocation is the predominant cytogenetic abnormality in DSRCT and breakpoint mapping has demonstrated that all chromosome 11 translocation breakpoints involve intron 7 of the Wilms' tumor gene *WT1*. The *EWS/WT1* fusion gene is used as a specific marker for the diagnosis of DSRCT.^{139,140}

Pathology and Pathways of Spread

DSRCT arises from the serosal lining of the body cavities and visceral organs. It is histologically described as nests of small round blue cells separated by desmoplastic stroma. Tumor cells are typically small to medium-sized with round to oval hyperchromatic nuclei and scant to moderate cytoplasm with indistinct cell borders. Larger cells are less commonly present.

There is often significant heterogeneity in differentiation with immunohistochemical reactivity for epithelium (epithelial membrane antigen), mesenchyme (vimentin), myogen (desmin), and neurons (neuron-specific enolase, CD56).¹⁴¹

Clinical Manifestations, Patient Evaluation, and Staging

DSRCT usually presents with diffuse abdominal metastatic disease (Figure 75-4). Extensive peritoneal surface involvement results in poor absorption of intraperitoneal fluid and

the build-up of ascites results in symptoms of abdominal fullness and distension, with constipation, weight loss, loose stool, and jaundice. Other primary sites include bone,¹⁴² paratestes,¹⁴³ CNS,¹⁴⁴ kidney,¹⁴⁵ and pleura.¹⁴⁶ Common sites of metastases are the intrathoracic cavity, mediastinum, pleura, paratesticular region, and soft tissues.¹³⁸

Initial work-up includes CT or MRI of the chest, abdomen and pelvis with consideration for PET/CT. Extensive disease at presentation often precludes complete resection leading to open biopsy as the usual diagnostic procedure. Though a staging system has been proposed,¹⁴⁷ none has been widely accepted, and essentially all cases are considered “stage 4” with dissemination at the time of diagnosis.

Primary and Adjuvant Therapy and Results

Although no universally accepted treatment recommendation exists for DSRCT, treatment usually begins with an alkylator-based chemotherapy regimen such as cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin, and vincristine alternating with ifosfamide and etoposide. This is followed by aggressive surgical debulking, whole-abdomen RT and targeted RT to high-risk sites, and autologous stem-cell transplantation. Median survival with this approach is 19 months.¹⁴⁸ Lal et al reported 3-year survival

of 58% in patients who underwent aggressive tumor debulking versus 0% for those who did not, illustrating the importance of surgery in the management of DSRCT.¹⁴⁹ Hyperthermic intraperitoneal chemotherapy perfusion, typically with cisplatin, has also been used with reports suggesting a survival benefit with this approach.¹³⁸ Liver metastases have been treated using yttrium-90 with radiographic response.¹⁵⁰ Although radiographic and clinical response is frequent with aggressive therapy, long-term prognosis remains poor with 5-year survival of approximately 15%^{149,151} (Figure 75-5).

Irradiation Techniques

RT plays an important role in the trimodality treatment of DSRCT. In a series of patients from Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, 3-year survival was 55% for those receiving chemotherapy, surgery, and RT versus 27% when fewer than three modalities were used.¹⁴⁹ Because of typical presentation with extensive abdominal disease and serosal spread, whole-abdomen radiotherapy is the most commonly applied approach. Whole-abdomen dose is typically 30 Gy guided primarily by normal tissue tolerance. With IMRT or conformal techniques, boost of gross disease to 45 Gy should be considered. Kidney dose of approximately 15 Gy whole organ and 20 Gy to 50% volume as well as liver dose of 24 Gy whole organ and 30 Gy to 50% volume are typical dose constraints.

Treatment Algorithms, Controversies, Challenges, and Future Possibilities

The current treatment algorithm for DSRCT consists of biopsy followed by neoadjuvant chemotherapy, second-look debulking surgery, and whole-abdominal RT with boost to bulk disease. Hyperthermic intraperitoneal chemotherapy is being investigated in Phase II trials and autologous bone marrow transplant has also been used.^{147,148,152}

Targeted biologic therapies either upfront or at time of relapse are being considered for immunohistochemically positive for markers such as placental alkaline phosphatase, *ERBB2*, androgen receptor, and c-KIT.¹⁵³ Additionally, there are case reports of antitumor activity for bevacizumab¹⁵¹ and trastuzumab.¹⁵³

LANGERHANS CELL HISTIOCYTOSIS

Etiology and Epidemiology

Langerhans cell histiocytosis (LCH) refers to the spectrum of diseases arising from clonal proliferation of the CD1a and



Figure 75-4 Desmoplastic small round cell tumor in a 12-year-old boy. There is extensive caking of the omentum as well as metastases to the liver and spleen.

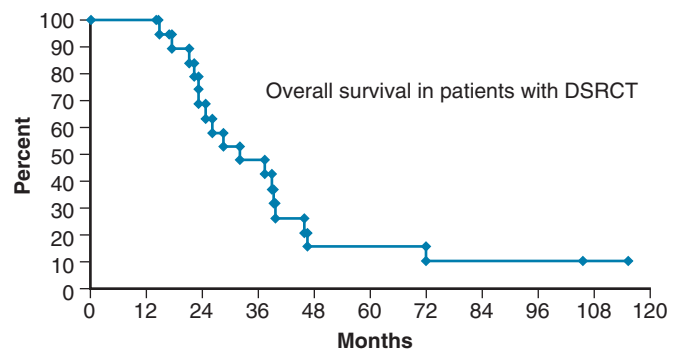
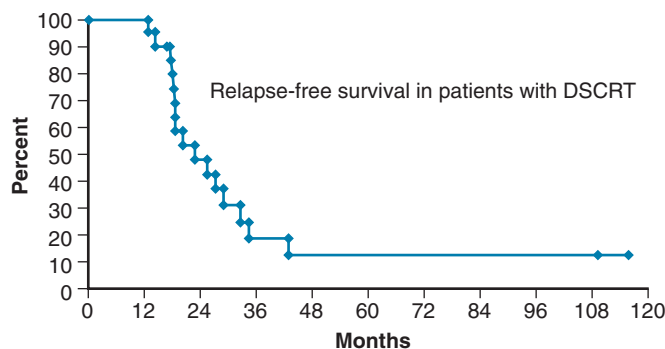


Figure 75-5 Disease-free survival and overall survival for desmoplastic small round cell tumor (DSRCT).

Data from Goodman KA, Wolden SL, La Quaglia MP, et al: Whole abdominopelvic radiotherapy for desmoplastic small round-cell tumor. *Int J Radiat Oncol Biol Phys* 54:170–176, 2002.

CD207 positive reticuloendothelial Langerhans cell. The historical name “histiocytosis X” was coined in the 1950s to indicate the histiocytic origin of the disease, with the “X” reflecting the mysterious clinical spectrum of disease presentation.¹⁵⁴ This designation was replaced by the term LCH in 1987.¹⁵⁵ LCH has an incidence of between 1 and 5 cases per million in the United States with approximately 1200 cases diagnosed each year.¹⁵⁶ Most children are under 15 years old at the time of diagnosis with a peak incidence between 1 and 4 years of age. There is a 2:1 male predominance with a slightly higher incidence in Caucasians. The precise etiology of LCH is unknown.^{156,157} Some have posited it may be caused by a viral infection, possibly human herpes virus 6 (HHV-6), although this has been disputed. Additionally, abnormalities in the intracellular communication between T cells and macrophages as well as irregularities in cytokine regulations have been proposed as etiologic mechanisms.¹⁵⁸⁻¹⁶²

Biologic Characteristics and Molecular Biology

The origin of LCH is believed to be the epidermal Langerhans cell. A clonal disorder, it is known to spontaneously regress in some patients and prove fatal in others. Most cases arise spontaneously, although there are rare genetic forms of the disease associated with specific cytokine gene variants that tend to occur early with multifocal disease.¹⁶³⁻¹⁶⁵

Pathology and Pathways of Spread

Histiocytic disorders have been classified into three groups by the Histiocyte Society: dendritic cell histiocytosis, macrophage-related disorders, and malignant histiocytosis with LCH falling into the first group.

Although the clinical manifestations of LCH can be quite varied, the pathology has more consistent characteristics. The presence of Langerhans cells is the hallmark of LCH. They are usually accompanied by macrophages, eosinophils, multinucleated giant cells, and T-cells.^{166,167} The pathognomonic Langerhans cell is a large ovoid cell with a folded nucleus and a slightly eosinophilic cytoplasm. Birbeck granules can be visualized with electron microscopy. Expression of langerin (CD207) is the most specific marker. Additionally, cytoplasmic S-100 protein positivity and positivity of major histocompatibility (MHC) class II and CD1a are usually present.¹⁶⁸

Clinical Manifestations, Patient Evaluation, and Staging

LCH is often grouped into three distinct entities that have different clinical presentations and prognoses. These distinctions are somewhat artificial, however, because there is a continuous spectrum of protean disease presentations. Approximately 30% of patients present with unifocal lytic lesions of bone known as eosinophilic granuloma.¹⁶⁹ These lesions occur in older children and commonly involve the skull. They can be painful and cause swelling and fractures, though they may also be incidentally identified.¹⁷⁰ This form of LCH is usually indolent and easily treated. Hand-Schüller-Christian disease is intermediate in severity. It presents as a triad of exophthalmos, skull lesions, and diabetes insipidus and occurs at a somewhat younger age.¹⁷¹ Letterer-Siwe disease is the most aggressive form of LCH. It is typically seen in children younger than 3 years of age and involves multiple organ systems. Common presentations include splenomegaly, lymphadenopathy, anemia, and blood dyscrasias with diffuse skeletal involvement. These children may have fever, popular rash, and cachexia. The prognosis of this presentation is poor.

There is no uniform staging system for LCH. Children are generally grouped by burden of disease such as number of lesions involved, single or multiple organ involvement, and “non-risk sites” (skin, bone, lymph nodes) versus “risk sites” (liver, spleen, lung, bone marrow). Those with “risk sites” involved are now often considered as having “high-risk” LCH versus others considered to have “low-risk” disease.^{169,172} A Turkish study of 217 patients reported 41.5% of patients with single-system disease, 34.1% with multiple-system disease, and 24.4% with multiple-system disease with organ dysfunction.¹⁷⁰

Workup should include skeletal survey as lesions are typically lytic and bone scintigraphy, although recommended, may not detect some lesions. Visceral disease status is evaluated by CT or MRI of the chest and abdomen, and brain MRI to rule out CNS involvement. PET/CT can be used to assess lymphatic involvement and may be more specific for bony lesions.¹⁷³ Bone marrow biopsy is recommended in cases with cytopenias. Diabetes insipidus evaluation via urine specific gravity and osmolality should also be performed. Liver biopsy may be indicated in cases with elevated liver function tests (LFTs). Pulmonary function tests and high-resolution CT are indicated when pulmonary involvement is suspected.

Primary and Adjuvant Therapy and Results

LCH involving a solitary bone may be appropriate for observation as spontaneous regression is possible. More frequently local therapy with surgical curettage or corticosteroid injection is used. RT is effective as well, though less frequently used. These local therapy modalities have an excellent outcome for unifocal disease with a cure rate of 94% reported by Titgemeyer et al.¹⁷⁴ Limited skin involvement can be treated with topical steroids or photodynamic therapy.

Locally Advanced Disease and Palliation

Multifocal disease is treated with systemic therapy. Risk-adapted regimens using combinations of vinblastine, etoposide, and prednisone are usually prescribed.¹⁷⁵ Risk is based on age, extent of multifocal disease, and critical organ involvement. Early response to chemotherapy has been identified as a prognostic indicator with multisite patients responding to therapy at 6 weeks having a 92% OS and non-responders 11% OS.¹⁷⁵ In non-responders and refractory disease, stem-cell transplantation has been used.^{176,177}

Irradiation Techniques

The use of radiotherapy in the treatment of LCH has steadily declined because of the effectiveness of alternative treatments and concerns for late RT effects in this young patient population. Current considerations for the use of RT include lesions where surgical intervention would have potential morbidity or in cases of lesions refractory to other treatments. Low-dose RT for bone lesions has been consistently effective with 88% to 96% local control reported for doses of 6 Gy to 15 Gy (median, 9 Gy).^{178,179} RT has also been used for diabetes insipidus secondary to LCH. Doses of 15 Gy to 20 Gy to the sellar/hypothalamic area have been used, and when given within 1 to 2 weeks of onset, 25% to 35% of patients show biochemical improvement.¹⁸⁰⁻¹⁸²

Treatment Algorithms, Controversies, Challenges, and Future Possibilities

Overall, most patients enjoy a favorable prognosis. Unfortunately, there are a minority of children (up to 20% to 30%) with

extensive organ involvement who succumb to LCH within 5 years. Targeted therapy and immune modulators have been evaluated in small studies including anti-CD1a antibodies, cytokine inhibitors, alemtuzumab, low-dose oral cyclophosphamide, and all-trans retinoic acid.¹⁸³⁻¹⁸⁵ Imatinib and B-raf inhibitors have also been studied.¹⁸⁶⁻¹⁸⁸ The Histiocyte Society and its website is a frequently updated resource for ongoing clinical trials and emerging information on LCH.¹⁸⁹

NASOPHARYNGEAL CARCINOMA

Etiology and Epidemiology

Pediatric nasopharyngeal carcinoma (PNC) is a rare tumor with an incidence and histologic subtype that varies significantly based on geographic location.¹⁹⁰

In children, the median age at diagnosis is 13 years and there is a 2:1 male predominance.^{191,192} Comparisons are often made between the adult and juvenile variants of nasopharyngeal carcinoma (NPC), and indeed much of the treatment regimens for PNC have been extrapolated from adult data owing to the rarity of the pediatric tumors. The diseases are similar in their relationship to EBV infection, to diets containing nitrites and salted fish, and to the male predominance. Additionally, certain human leukocyte antigen (HLA) subtypes are associated with an increased risk of NPC.^{193,194} However, in children, the greatest incidence occurs in the Mediterranean and North America regions rather than China, Southeast Asia, and Alaska; undifferentiated histology is the most common type; and patients present with significantly more advanced disease at diagnosis. In one retrospective series, 92% of pediatric patients had stages III to IV disease versus 67% of adults. However, data show that despite higher stage disease, children have a better overall prognosis in both OS and locoregional disease control.¹⁹⁵⁻¹⁹⁷

Biologic Characteristics and Molecular Biology

EBV has been a long established etiologic factor for the development of NPC and is associated with 90% of PNCs, particularly the undifferentiated and nonkeratinizing types. The relationship between EBV and NPC was confirmed when EBV DNA was found in neoplastic epithelial cells but was absent in the surrounding lymphocytes.¹⁹⁸ The EBV genome is a double-stranded DNA virus encoding 100 genes, only 10 of which are expressed in latently infected cells in vitro. Of these, six are nuclear proteins (EBNAs), two are latent membrane proteins (LMPs), and two are nontranslated RNA molecules (EBER) that likely aid in cell growth. In NPC, latent membrane protein 1 (LMP1) acts as an oncogene, changing growth patterns and upregulating proteins that inhibit apoptosis, including BCL2.¹⁹⁰ Although BCL-2 is highly expressed in ~80% of adults with NPC, it is likely not associated with pediatric NPC.^{199,200} LMP1 also binds to various proteins associated with tumor necrosis factor receptors and is involved in activation of transcription factors, cellular adhesion molecules, and cytokines. LMP2 is also expressed in NPC and acts by preventing reactivation of the virus by blocking phosphorylation of tyrosine kinases.¹⁹⁰

NPC development is thought to represent a multistep process initiated most frequently by EBV infection resulting in the expression of LMP1 and overexpression of TP53 in the epithelial tumor cells. Additionally, rearrangement of the retinoblastoma tumor suppressor genes, and polymorphism of CYP2E1 may contribute to tumorigenesis. Genetic gains on chromosome 12 as well as losses on 11q, 13q, and 16q have been associated with invasiveness, whereas TP53 mutation

and altered expression of cadherins are associated with metastasis.^{193,201-203} A small proportion of PNC exhibit t(15;19) with the BRD4-NUT oncogene, which perturbs BRD4 functions thus blocking cellular differentiation and contributing to the oncogenic progression in the highly aggressive NUT midline NPC.²⁰⁴

Pathology and Pathways of Spread

NPC is grouped into three histotypes by the World Health Organization (WHO): type I, keratinizing squamous cell carcinoma; type II, nonkeratinizing squamous cell carcinoma; and type III, undifferentiated carcinoma, previously referred to as lymphoepithelioma. Type I shows significant keratin production, is usually seen in adults, and is not usually associated with EBV. Type II is characterized by groups of cells with oval or fusiform nuclei and scant cytoplasm. Type III is an undifferentiated tumor with prominent nonmalignant lymphocytic infiltration. The Cologne modification of the WHO classification further subdivides types II and III; type IIa has pleomorphism without lymphoid infiltration, type IIb has significant lymphoid infiltrate. Type IIIa is characterized by larger, eosinophilic nuclei, and type IIIb has smaller basophilic nuclei. Virtually all PNCs are type III undifferentiated carcinomas.^{190,205}

PNC typically originates in the fossa of Rosenmüller, a pharyngeal recess posterolateral to the eustachian tube orifice. Routes of direct spread include the oropharynx or perineural spread along cranial nerves extending to the skull base. The cervical lymph nodes are typically involved early, and less commonly, the spinal accessory chain and retropharyngeal nodes. Most patients present with locoregionally advanced disease; distant metastases at presentation is infrequent. The most frequently affected metastatic sites are the bones, lungs, liver, bone marrow, and mediastinum.²⁰⁶

Clinical Manifestations, Patient Evaluation, and Staging

The most common presenting symptom of PNC, occurring in up to 90% of patients, is a painless cervical mass representing lymphadenopathy. Bilateral lymph nodes are often present because of the midline location of the nasopharynx with regional drainage to the internal jugular nodes, the spinal accessory nodes, and the retropharyngeal nodes. Local extension of tumor can cause epistaxis, nasal obstruction, hearing loss, or otitis media from obstruction of the eustachian tubes, which can also lead to ear pain and tinnitus. Base-of-skull invasion can result in headache, facial pain, neck pain, and cranial neuropathies.^{190,193,194,207} Uncommonly, the syndrome of inappropriate antidiuretic hormone secretion (SIADH) has been reported and can cause severe hyponatremia.²⁰⁸ The duration of symptoms before diagnosis ranges from 1 month to 24 months, with an average of 5 months.¹⁹⁰

Work-up includes history and physical examination with nasopharyngoscopy. Laboratory evaluation consists of CBC, kidney and liver function tests, serum EBV titers, a baseline audiogram, and CT or MRI of the head and neck. CT of the chest and abdomen or, alternatively, PET/CT, is done to screen for distant metastases.²⁰⁹ Dental and endocrine evaluations should be obtained in preparation for RT and to establish baseline function.

Staging is based on the American Joint Committee on Cancer staging system for NPC in adults (Table 75-6). The nodal staging for nasopharyngeal tumors takes into account the anatomic level of nodal involvement, an important prognostic factor. Retropharyngeal lymph nodes, regardless of their laterality, are considered N1.^{210,211}

TABLE 75-6 Nasopharyngeal Carcinoma Staging: American Joint Committee on Cancer

PRIMARY TUMOR	
TX	Primary tumor cannot be assessed
T0	No evidence of primary tumor
Tis	Carcinoma in situ
T1	Primary tumor confined to nasopharynx, extending to oropharynx, or nasal cavity without parapharyngeal space extension
T2	Tumor extends to soft tissues
T2a	Tumor extends to oropharynx and/or nasal cavity (no parapharyngeal extension)
T2b	Tumor within parapharyngeal space*
T3	Invasion of bone of skull base or paranasal sinuses
T4	Tumor with intracranial extension or cranial nerve involvement, extension to hypopharynx, orbit, or infratemporal fossa/masticator space
REGIONAL LYMPH NODES	
NX	Regional lymph nodes cannot be assessed
N0	No regional lymph node involvement
N1	Unilateral metastasis ≤6 cm above the supraclavicular fossa and/or unilateral or bilateral retropharyngeal lymph nodes ≤6 cm
N2	Bilateral lymph node metastasis, ≤6 cm, above the supraclavicular fossa
N3	Metastasis in a lymph node >6 cm or extension to supraclavicular fossa
N3a	>6 cm
N3b	Extension to supraclavicular fossa
DISTANT METASTASES	
M0	No distant metastasis
M1	Distant metastasis
AJCC STAGE	
Stage 0	TisN0M0
Stage I	T1N0M0
Stage IIA	T2aN0M0
Stage IIB	T1-2aN1M0 T2bN0-1M0
Stage III	T1-2a-2bN2M0 T3N0-1-2M0
Stage IVA	T4N0-1-2M0
Stage IVB	T1-4N3M0
Stage IVC	M1

From Edge SB, Byrd DR, Compton CC, et al, editors: *AJCC Cancer Staging Handbook*, ed 7, New York, 2010, Springer.

*Parapharyngeal extension denotes posterolateral spread of tumor.

Primary and Adjuvant Therapy and Results

Surgery for PNC is limited by anatomic location and involvement of critical structures, which would usually result in a morbid and incomplete resection. Therefore, RT is the mainstay of therapy for every stage of PNC. PNC is radiosensitive. However, outcome with RT alone has been unsatisfactory, with local recurrence rates of 20% to 60% and rates of distant metastases ranging from 20% to 55%.²¹²⁻²¹⁶ Therefore, combined-modality therapy is most often used.

Treatment of PNC was initially extrapolated from recommendations in the adult literature and cisplatin has been the agent most frequently used in conjunction with RT. This was

based primarily on the Intergroup 0099 trial, which compared chemoradiation with RT alone in adults with NPC, delivering 70 Gy with or without cisplatin, followed by three cycles of adjuvant cisplatin and 5-fluorouracil.²¹⁷ Three-year progression-free survival was 69% with chemoradiation versus 24% with RT alone, and 3-year OS was 78% versus 47%, respectively. The use of cisplatin was further supported by a meta-analysis of adult patients that reported a 20% survival benefit for concurrent cisplatin with RT versus RT alone.²¹⁸

Historically, PNC was treated with RT alone. OS ranged from 50% to 55% with relapse-free survival of 36% to 75%. RT doses varied significantly from 35 Gy to 86 Gy.²¹⁹⁻²²¹ More recently, combined-modality regimens and advanced RT techniques such as intensity-modulated RT (IMRT) and image-guided RT (IGRT) have improved outcomes for PNC. Ayan et al²²² and Wolden et al²²³ reported improved survival after chemoradiation, particularly using neoadjuvant chemotherapy, with OS as high as 76%. Data from these studies also suggested a benefit when radiation doses exceeded 60 Gy. However, the 10-year actuarial rate of severe complications using these radiation doses was 24% including a significant risk of sensorineural hearing loss when the cochlear dose exceeded 48 Gy.²²⁴

Ozyar et al¹⁹⁵ reported a large, multiinstitutional international review of PNC treated over a 25-year interval which demonstrated the benefit of cisplatin as well as higher RT dose. Overall 5-year survival was 77.4% with DFS of 68.8% after combined irradiation and chemotherapy; the only significant negative prognostic factor for OS and DFS was N3 disease. RT doses less than 66 Gy adversely affected locoregional control, and RT without chemotherapy decreased locoregional control and DFS.

Kupeli et al published their experience treating PNC using RT with concurrent cyclophosphamide versus concurrent vincristine, cyclophosphamide, epirubicin, and dactinomycin (AVAC) versus neoadjuvant cisplatin. OS with neoadjuvant cisplatin was 80% versus 63% with AVAC and 31% with cyclophosphamide.²²⁵

The Pediatric Oncology Group 9486 study used neoadjuvant chemotherapy (cisplatin, 5-fluorouracil, methotrexate, and leucovorin) followed by RT (50.4 Gy to the upper neck, 45 Gy to the lower neck, and a boost to the primary tumor to a total dose of 61.2 Gy).²²⁶ Four-year EFS and OS was 77% and 75%, respectively.

A prospective German trial tested three cycles of cisplatin, 5-fluorouracil, methotrexate, and leucovorin followed by RT (59.4 Gy) for stages III-IV PNC; patients were then maintained on interferon-beta for 6 months. After a median follow-up of 30 months (range, 6 months to 95 months), EFS rate was 92.4%, and OS was 97.1%. Acute toxicity was mainly leucopenia, mucositis, and nausea; late toxicity consisted of hearing loss and hypothyroidism. The excellent outcomes were hypothesized as due, in part, to the administration of interferon-beta during a period of relative immune suppression in EBV-positive NPC.²²⁷

Factors that correlate with DFS include age, nodal stage, TNM stage, node size, node fixation, radiation dose, and response to neoadjuvant chemotherapy.²²⁸

Response-adapted RT has been investigated to reduce RT toxicity. Habrand et al²²⁹ used sequential cisplatin-based regimens and response-adapted RT doses of 50 Gy after marked response and 65 Gy to 70 Gy after poor response to chemotherapy. Five-year EFS and OS were 64% and 68%, respectively; locoregional failures were similar between the groups, but the low RT dose group actually had superior OS and EFS, with apparent reduction in late toxicities. Orbach et al²³⁰ reported results of risk-adapted RT following one of three chemotherapy protocols (both neoadjuvant and adjuvant

chemotherapy). Objective response to preirradiation chemotherapy was seen in 78% of cases; those with complete response or good partial response received a reduced dose RT regimen (median dose 47 Gy) to the clinically negative cervical nodes and 59.4 Gy to the primary tumor. Patients not meeting response criteria were given 60 Gy median dose to all involved sites. The 5-year OS was not compromised in the reduced-dose cohort, with OS of 73% at 5 years, local failure rate of 10%, and regional failure rate of 3%.

Irradiation Techniques

Because of the high-risk of lymph node involvement at presentation, RT for PNC targets the primary tumor, clinically involved nodes, and nodal areas at risk. Prophylactic RT includes lymph nodes in the bilateral upper deep jugular, submandibular, subdiaphragmatic, midjugular, low jugular and supraclavicular, posterior cervical, and retropharyngeal chains.

The optimal doses to maximize tumor control and minimize toxicity continue to evolve with current recommendation for 60 Gy to 70 Gy to the primary tumor and gross disease and 45 Gy to 50 Gy for at-risk nodal areas. The recent COG protocol ARAR0331 specifies RT alone for stages I and IIa disease to 61.2 Gy and 66.6 Gy, respectively. For advanced disease, patients are given neoadjuvant cisplatin and 5-fluorouracil, with responding patients treated to 61.2 Gy versus 70.2 Gy for non-responders.

IMRT allows for sparing of normal tissues with reduced toxicity and superior target coverage. Both acute and long-term toxicity with IMRT are likely improved as compared to other techniques. However, this comes at the expense of increased integral dose and the possibility of increased risk of radiation-induced tumors.²³¹ Proton therapy has been used for PNC and its use will likely grow because of the inherent decrease in normal tissue exposure with particle therapy.²³²

Simulation should be CT based, with appropriate immobilization and localization techniques. The Children's Oncology Group currently recommends delineation of the gross tumor volume (GTV) based on MRI; lymph nodes larger than 1.5 cm or of any size with a necrotic center are included in the GTV. The clinical target volume (CTV) includes the GTV plus a 1-cm margin, the entire nasopharynx, retropharyngeal nodes, skull base, pterygoid fossa, parapharyngeal space, inferior sphenoidal sinus, and posterior third of the nasal cavity, and maxillary sinuses as well as the bilateral cervical lymphatic levels I to V. The lower halves of levels IV and V can be excluded in patients with early-stage disease. A boost, or second CTV, may include the nasopharynx and residual enhancing disease that remains after neoadjuvant chemotherapy.

Critical normal structures include the spinal cord and brainstem, mandible/temporomandibular joint, temporal lobes, and optic apparatus. Other structures at risk are the parotid gland, oral cavity, larynx, eyes, lens, cochlea, and pituitary. Xerostomia, neck fibrosis, dental caries, chronic sinusitis, chronic serous otitis, trismus, hypopituitarism, hypothyroidism, hypoplasia of facial bones or clavicles, and second malignancies have been well documented^{190,223,225} (Table 75-7).

Treatment Algorithms, Controversies, Challenges, and Future Possibilities

Standard treatment for most PNC is defined as three to four cycles of platinum-based neoadjuvant chemotherapy followed by RT to the primary tumor and regional lymphatics with concurrent cisplatin. This may be followed by additional chemotherapy. Early-stage disease may be considered for RT alone. Dose recommendations will likely continue to evolve

TABLE 75-7 Incidence of Treatment-Related Toxicity in Nasopharyngeal Cancer

Complication	Percentage
Xerostomia	3.5-84
Soft-tissue fibrosis	23-61
Dental caries	7-33
Chronic otitis	18
Hypothyroidism	9.5-12
Trismus	7.1-9
Chronic sinusitis	7
Second malignancy	2-6
Osteoradionecrosis	3
Optic neuritis	3

with ongoing studies reviewing response-based dosing. IMRT techniques are recommended with the use of proton RT being reported on as well. Future challenges will likely be related to optimal dose definition and using improved RT techniques to minimize toxicity, integration of EBV-directed therapy, and immunomodulation.

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