

1. Prognostic impact of diagnostic and treatment delays in children with osteosarcoma.

(Impacto pronóstico de los retrasos en el diagnóstico y el tratamiento en niños con osteosarcoma.)

INVESTIGADORES: Vasquez L, Silva J, Chavez S, Zapata A, Diaz R, Tarrillo F, Maza I, Sialer L, García J

REVISTA: *Pediatr Blood Cancer*. 2020 Jan 11:e28180. doi: 10.1002/pbc.28180.

ABSTRACTO: **BACKGROUND:** The aim of this study is to evaluate the relationship between the latency to diagnosis (LD) and the time to completion of chemotherapy (TCC) with clinical outcomes in children with osteosarcoma. **METHODS:** We performed a retrospective analysis of all patients who received treatment for osteosarcoma in two tertiary centers in Peru from 2008 to 2015. All causes of delayed LD or TCC were evaluated. Overall survival (OS) and event-free-survival (EFS) were estimated and compared according to LD, TCC, and established clinical prognostic factors. **RESULTS:** One hundred and thirteen patients were included in the study. The median LD was 13.5 weeks (interquartile range, 10-18.5 weeks). No association was observed among clinical stage, tumor size, and LD. Delayed LD was not associated with a worse clinical outcome. Multivariate analysis confirmed that OS and EFS were significantly worse in cases of a delayed TCC (≥ 4 weeks), with hazard ratios of 2.70 (1.11-6.76, $P = 0.003$) and 1.13 (1.00-1.26, $P = 0.016$), respectively. Most delays in TCC (85%) were due to extramedical reasons (e.g., lack of available hospital beds). **CONCLUSION:** The LD did not seem to influence the EFS and OS in pediatric patients with osteosarcoma. However, a delay in TCC from any cause is independently associated with poor outcome in pediatric patients with osteosarcoma. Based on these results, further efforts may be needed to avoid treatment delays in patients with osteosarcoma in middle-income countries.

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3. Bridging the Gap in Access to Care for Children With CNS Tumors Worldwide.

(Cerrando la brecha en el acceso a la atención para niños con tumores del SNC en todo el mundo)

INVESTIGADORES: Moreira DC, Rajagopal R, Navarro-Martin Del Campo RM, Polanco AC, Alcasabas AP, Arredondo-Navarro LA, Campos D, Casavilca-Zambrano S, Diaz Coronado RY, Faizal N, Ganesan D, Hamid SA, Khan R, Khu K, Loh J, Lukban M, Negreiros T, Pineda E, Yaqoob N, Zia N, Gajjar A, Rodriguez-Galindo C, Qaddoumi I.

REVISTA: *JCO Glob Oncol*. 2020 Apr;6:583-584. doi: 10.1200/GO.20.00047.

ABSTRACTO: With more than 40,000 CNS tumors diagnosed in children and adolescents every year worldwide, CNS tumors are a leading cause of cancer morbidity and mortality in these patients. The complexity of elements needed to provide quality care is substantial, with integration of comprehensive multidisciplinary care comprising accurate pathologic and radiologic diagnosis, neurosurgery, radiation therapy, chemotherapy, rehabilitation, and close monitoring for acute complications and long-term effects. Unfortunately, most children with CNS tumors are diagnosed in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) where health systems are frequently not adequately equipped to manage such complex cases. In addition, data on the incidence, survival, and burden of CNS tumors is currently scant at best, even more so than for other childhood cancers.

4. "Myoepithelial Carcinoma of Urinary Bladder in a Pediatric Patient. A Case Report"

"Carcinoma mioepitelial de vejiga urinaria en un paciente pediátrico. Informe de un caso"

INVESTIGADORES: Katy Ordoñez-Tanchiva, Pedro Guerra-Canchari, Diego Sueldo-Espinoza.

REVISTA: Urology 2020 Jun 3;S0090-4295(20)30642-7. doi: 10.1016/j.urology.2020.05.043. Online ahead of print.

ABSTRACTO: Myoepithelial carcinoma is a rare pathological variant, usually expressed in salivary gland. This case report describes a case of pediatric myoepithelial carcinoma in the urinary bladder. A 4-year-old male patient was admitted to a specialized hospital in Lima, Peru for hematuria. A CT scan showed a tumor lesion in the bladder wall, and biopsy revealed myoepithelial carcinoma of urinary bladder. 6 courses of chemotherapy + partial cystectomy + radiotherapy was completed. The treatment was defined based on the pathological variant and the tumor location. The patient is currently at 2 years of disease-free survival.

5. Early Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Paediatric Cancer Care in Latin America

(Impacto temprano de la pandemia de COVID-19 en la atención del cáncer pediátrico en América Latina.)

INVESTIGADORES: Liliana Vasquez, Claudia Sampor, Gabriela Villanueva, Essy Maradiegue, Mercedes Garcia-Lombardi, Wendy Gomez-García, Florencia Moreno, Rosdali Diaz, Andrea M Cappellano, Carlos Andres Portilla, Beatriz Salas, Evelinda Nava, Silvia Brizuela, Soledad Jimenez, Ximena Espinoza, Pascale Yola Gassant, Karina Quintero, Soad Fuentes-Alabi, Thelma Velasquez, Ligia Fu, Yessika Gamboa, Juan Quintana, Mariela Castiglioni, Cesar Nuñez, Arturo Moreno, Sandra Luna-Fineman, Silvana Luciani, Guillermo Chantada.

REVISTA: Lancet Oncol 2020 Jun;21(6):753-755. doi: 10.1016/S1470-2045(20)30280-1. Epub 2020 May 18.

ABSTRACTO: Although previous studies have suggested that the complications and mortality rate related to COVID-19 are substantially lower in the paediatric population, it is reasonable to consider that children with underlying conditions such as cancer will be at increased risk of severe disease. Some reports have examined the impact of COVID-19 in children with cancer; in all cases no deaths or disease-related complications have been reported. In order to prevent the rapid spread of the virus as seen in many European countries, most Latin American countries implemented early epidemiological actions with social distancing, interruptions of commercial activities, transportation, and schooling. Preparation for the pandemic throughout Latin America, in terms of hospital capacity, human resources, and testing capacity is, however, heterogeneous. In this scenario, there is emerging concern about the collateral effect of the COVID-19 pandemic on access to diagnosis and treatment in children with cancer. In response to this problem, the global paediatric oncology community has summarised some of the anticipated challenges.

