

Nasopharyngeal adenoid Cystic carcinoma: About two cases and review of the literature

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Abstract

Nasopharyngeal adenoid Cystic carcinoma is a rare tumour; few cases were reported in the literature. It is characterized by slow growth rate, high tendency to local recurrence and metastatic spread. The corner stone of its therapeutic management is surgery when is possible, unfortunately because of difficulty of access to the nasopharynx; surgery is more often limited; so radiotherapy seems to remain the ideal treatment. The chemotherapy is indicated in the metastasis situations.

We report two cases aged respectively: 50, and 46 years old. The first patient presented with diffuse pulmonary metastasis; the treatment combined chemotherapy, based on cisplatin and adriamycin drugs, and palliative radiation therapy at the dose of 30 Gy. The patient died 6 months after diagnosis. The second patient, presented with locally advanced disease, was treated by external beam radiotherapy at the dose of 70 Gy. 36 months after the end of the treatment, she presented a local recurrence treated by re-irradiation of the nasopharynx at the dose of 60 Gy. The patient is still alive without disease 12 months after the treatment completed.