SKIN CANCER (OTHER THAN MELANOMA)

BONE INVOLVEMENT IN CLASSIC KAPOSI'S SARCOMA

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Background: Classic Kaposi's sarcoma (KS) is a rare angioproliferative neoplasm which typically occurs on the skin of the lower limbs of immunocompetent elderly men. Bone involvement in classic KS has been exceptionally reported.

Observation: We conducted a retrospective database analysis of our departmental database to identify patients with classic KS who developed bone involvement between 1995 and 2016. In total, we observed 1196 patients with classic KS and 3 (0,25%) of them developed bone involvement. All 3 were male and the average age of onset of bone localization was 81,3 years. They all had a history of classic KS for an average of 24 years without extra-cutaneous involvement. All 3 patients presented with bone pain and had infiltration of a lower limb bone. Bone radiological features were nonspecific in one patient, while a magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) revealed osteolytic lesions and/or a solid tumour in all patients. HHV8 genotype analysis was performed in 2 patients, and subtypes A and C were found, respectively. Two of the patients received chemotherapy with intravenous paclitaxel 100 mg/m2 weekly, in addition to trans-tibial amputation or radiotherapy, respectively, showing only a short-medium-term remission, after which the disease recurred. The third patient underwent trans-femoral amputation and died after a few months.

Key message: Bone involvement should be considered in all patients with known KS presenting with bone pain, even in absence of significant overlying disease.