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Long-term Outcomes of Globe-Preserving Surgery with Proton Beam Radiation for Adenoid Cystic Carcinoma of the Lacrimal Gland

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Abstract:

Purpose: To describe outcomes of globe-preserving surgery combined with high dose proton beam radiation (PBR) in treating primary adenoid cystic carcinoma (ACC) of the lacrimal gland.

Design: Retrospective case series.

Methods: Twenty-nine patients with primary ACC of the lacrimal gland were identified in the records of a single institution between 1990 and 2017. Patients with non-orbital primary tumor origins or with inadequate follow-ups were excluded. Eighteen patients met inclusion criteria. Clinical data, imaging studies, histopathology, treatment modality, local recurrences, visual outcomes, metastases and survivals were assessed. Diseasefree survivals for the current patients were measured and compared to those of other studies.

Results: The eighteen patients (14 females, 4 males) were followed for a median of 12.9 years (range 0.6 to 22.3 years) post treatment completion. Their median age was 40 years. Four were children (median age 12 years). All were treated with globepreserving tumor resection and radiation (median dose of 72 Cobalt Grey Equivalents). Three adult patients died from metastatic disease (median of 4.2 years after treatment). Four had local recurrences. Useful vision (20/40 or better) was retained for a median 3 years (range 1 to 12.9 years). Radiation morbidity included brain injury, retinopathy, optic neuropathy, keratopathy and cataract. Overall and disease-free survivals were significantly better compared to historical treatments, but did not differ statistically from other modern approaches.

Conclusions: Globe-preserving surgery with PBR, although imperfect, has a favorable long-term survival compared to other modern modalities with a variable period of useful vision.

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