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Introduction: Cognitive impairment and personality changes following brain tumors may be due to frontal network disruption. The effects of different tumor components such as residual tumor size, gliosis, edema and encephalomalacia on frontal behavior syndromes is unknown. The aim of our study was to determine the relation between tumor components and apathy, disinhibition and executive dysfunction, using the FrSBe, a standardized rating scale. Methods: 31 brain tumor patients who completed the FrSBe were included. Questionnaires were scored and raw scores converted to T-scores (mean 50, SD 10) according to published norms. Using OsirIX, brain lesions were manually segmented on the Fluid attenuated inversion recovery (FLAIR) sequence into residual tumor, gliosis, edema and encephalomalacia. Spearman correlations were used to determine the relationship between tumor components and frontal behaviors as measured by FrSBe scores. Results: Clinically significant levels of Apathy were endorsed on the patient self rating scales of the FrSBe (mean T-score2 SD: 65.19 17.28 and 68.75 17.57, respectively). Self-reported Executive Dysfunction was also clinically significant (68.16F 14.63). Encephalomalacia was positively correlated with family ratings of Apathy (r=0.491; p<0.045), Disinhibition (r=0.532; p<0.034), and Executive Dysfunction (r=0.583; p<0.018). None of the other features of the brain lesions showed correlations with the FrSBe. Conclusion: Family ratings of three frontal behaviors are correlated with encephalomalacia in brain tumor patients. Our results suggest that tumor components have differential effects on frontal circuits. Systematic assessment of these behaviors in brain tumor patients may provide better understanding of these differential effects, and have implications for treatment.

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RTGO 0424: Preliminary results of a phase II study of a temozolomide (TMZ) and radiotherapy (RT) in high risk low grade gliomas (LGGs)


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Purpose: To compare the 3-year (yr) survival (OS/PFS)of TMZ and RT in a high-risk LGG population to historical controls1 and to collect toxicity, neurocognitive(NCF) and quality of life(QOL)data. Methods: 129 LGG patients(pts) with >=3 risk factors(age>=40, astrocytoma, tumor across midline, tumor >=6 cm or preop neurofunction >1) received RT(54 Gy/30 fractions) with concurrent TMZ plus up to 12 cycles of post-RT TMZ. A battery of QOL/NCF tests were performed at baseline, 6 and 12 mo. Results: 129 pts(75 males/54 females, median age 49.91% Zubrod score 0-1 with 69%, 25% and 6% with 3, 4 and 5 risk factors) were evaluable. MST is not reached at a median follow-up of 4.1 yrs. 3 year OS of 73.1% was significantly improved from historical controls1. Grade 3 adverse events (AE) occurred in 43% of pts, grade 4 AE in 10%. One pt died of herpes encephalitis, 93 pts (72%) underwent QOL/NCF testing. Median FACT-BR/NCF scores remained stable or improved in the majority of pts at 12 mo. Conclusions: The 3 year OS rate of 73.1% for these high risk LGG pts is significantly higher than historical controls1 (p<0.001) with NCF/QOL scores remaining stable amongst those completing questionnaires.

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Volumetric tumor control and predictors of adverse events following gammaknife stereotactic radiosurgery for intracranial meningiomas

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Objective: To identify clinical, radiological, and dosimetric predictors of meningioma response to stereotactic radiosurgery (SRS), and post-SRS adverse radiation events (ARE). Methodology: A retrospective review of the database of meningioma patients treated with SRS between December 2005 and June 2013 at the University Health Network was performed. Seventy-five patients had at least 24 months of clinical and radiological follow-up, and were therefore included in this study. Tumor control was defined as any volumetric/diameic change less than +10%. Volumetric measurements were made using T1-Gadolinium enhanced 3T MRI scans with ITK-SNAP2.2 software. Univariate statistics were used to identify predictors of post SRS AREs. All statistical analyses were performed using IBM SPSS v20.0. Results: Females comprised 69.3% of patients, mean treatment age was 58.6 years, and median follow up was 36.2 months. Twenty-one patients had undergone prior surgical resection. One patient required salvage surgical intervention following SRS. Volumetric tumor control (52%) was inferior to diametric control (92%). Twenty-six patients (34.6%) experienced some form of new-onset complication after SRS: Headache (17.3%), cranial neuropathy (10.6%), speech impairment (2.7%), tremor (2.7%), and ataxia (1.3%). Fourteen patients (18.7%) experienced new onset T2 signal change signifying of edema; eight of these patients were symptomatic. Lower Conformity index (1.24 vs. 1.4), and higher treatment-