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Service (sector) Tumors and Pathology N° CEP

Retinoblastoma: The Disease Staging During Admission To Referral Service

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PURPOSE: To demonstrate the classification stage (Reese-Elsworth classification) of the children with retinoblastoma during admission at referral service and to analyse the main conduct of the first healthcare assistant professional. **METHODS:** The study is based upon a retrospective analysis of 368 patients with retinoblastoma attending the Hospital A. C. Camargo - Fundação Antônio Prudente, from 1990 to 2000. **RESULTS:** 74,2 % out of 273 analysed patients, were in intraocular group V of the Reese - Elsworth classification. In 56,4 % out of 320 patients, the main conduct adopted from the first healthcare assistant professional who attended the children, was to send the patient to specialized assistance. Although, 23,5 % out of these patients had their diagnoses delayed. **CONCLUSIONS:** this study shows the necessity of implantation of an educational program to healthcare professionals, mainly ophthalmologists and pediatricians, about retinoblastoma, leading to its early diagnosis.