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Retinoblastoma: Result of Treatment of Intraocular Disease at a Referral Service

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Aim: To demonstrate the result of treatment of intraocular retinoblastoma eyes at the Instituto de Oncologia Pediátrica – UNIFESP **Design:** Interventional case series **Patients and methods:** A retrospective study of consecutive intraocular retinoblastoma patients was made, between January 2001 and November 2003. Reese-Ellsworth (RE) staging was used to classify the eyes. According to the lesion size, localization and possibility of vision preservation, the following therapeutic modalities were used: local therapy (transpupillary thermotherapy, photocoagulation and cryotherapy) chemotherapy (chemoreduction), brachytherapy, external beam radiation and enucleation, each one as isolated modality or in association. **Results:** A total of 64 cases were considered for this study, 33 unilateral cases (33 eyes) and 31 bilateral cases (62 eyes). Concerning the unilateral cases, 18 eyes (54,5%) underwent primary enucleation and 4 eyes (12,2%) were enucleated after tentative of conservative treatment (RE V staging, all the cases), the remaining eyes were submitted to conservative treatment (RE I-1 eye; III-4 eyes; IV-4 eyes and V-2 eyes), with a good response on average of follow up of 7,7 months. Of the bilateral cases, 21 eyes (33,8%) were submitted to primary enucleation (RE V, all the cases); 36 eyes (58%) have received conservative treatment, five of them presented treatment failure and were enucleated. The remaining eyes were conserved (RE I- 7 eyes; II- 3 eyes; III- 3 eyes; IV- 6 eyes; V- 12 eyes), on average of follow up of 11,3 months. Five eyes (7,8%) have not been considered in this group because the treatment was abandoned or the patient died. The secondary complications to the treatment, which depended on the therapeutic modality, were the following: retinal fibrosis (thermotherapy/cryotherapy), retinal and/or tumor neovascularization and vitreous hemorrhage (brachytherapy), orbital tissue atrophy (external beam radiation) and orbital implant extrusion (enucleation). **Conclusion:** Forty-one per cent of the retinoblastoma eyes underwent primary enucleation. Forty-three per cent of the retinoblastoma eyes were conserved with available treatment, been fifteen per cent advanced cases (RE V).