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Intra-ocular Retinoblastoma: epidemiologic study and cases seen by the Ocular Tumours

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Purpose: To describe the results of treatment of all new sequential cases of retinoblastoma presenting to our services between 1 January 2001 and 30 June 2005.

Materials and Methods: This was a retrospective chart review of all patients treated during this period. Epidemiologic data were collected on age, sex, affected eye, and delay to treatment. The Reese-Ellsworth Group and Children's Cancer Study Group stagings classifications were used. When indicated, chemotherapy, focal therapy (TTT, cryotherapy, plaque radiotherapy), external beam irradiation and enucleation were used as treatment methods. Outcome measures were the numbers of: eyes saved, enucleations done and deaths.

Results: There were 96 patients; 46 male and 50 female, and 131 eyes affected. R-E groups I-IV had 13 unilateral and 13 bilateral cases (39 eyes or 39/131=30%) and R-E groups Va and b had 24 unilateral and 34 bilateral cases (92 eyes =70 %) Three cases had extraocular disease found on systemic evaluation at diagnosis. After conservative treatment, there were 6 enucleations and 1 indicated enucleation but lost with death, and 33 eyes salvaged in groups I-IV (33/39=82.0%). In groups Va and b there were 67 eyes enucleated (72.8%), 10 eyes lost through death and 15 eyes salvaged (15/92=16.3%). Average delay to treatment was 6.2 months for all groups. There were 8 deaths (8.3%): the 3 who presented with extraocular disease and 5 others (one from group I-IV and 4 from group Va/b).

Conclusions: our results are consistent with the poor outcomes reported in the literature for eyes in the R-E group Va and Vb at diagnosis, and the better results for eyes in R-E groups I-IV.