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Glioblastoma multiforme with atypical diffusion-weighted MR findings

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Abstract. The aim of this study is to review the diffusion-weighted MRI findings of glioblastomas, to investigate those with atypical characteristics and to emphasise the reasons responsible for the atypical features on diffusion-weighted MR images. 48 cases of histologically proven glioblastomas were included in this study. In addition to conventional sequences of routine tumour protocol, diffusion-weighted MRI with spin-echo echo-planar sequence was performed. The cystic-necrotic components of the lesions, according to the conventional sequences, were determined on the diffusion-weighted MR images and were classified as typical or atypical. The presence of high signal intensity was accepted as an atypical feature while low signal intensity was accepted as typical. The apparent diffusion coefficient (ADC) values of the cystic components were calculated. The statistical significance of the typical and atypical glioblastomas was evaluated with the students *t*-test. In six of the cases apparent high signal intensity in diffusion weighted MR images was interpreted. In three cases the high signal intensity occupied all of the cystic component and in the other three most of the cystic component. The ADC values of the lesions varied between $0.86 \times 10^{-3} \text{ mm}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$ and $1.39 \times 10^{-3} \text{ mm}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$ (mean value $1.06 \pm 0.17 \times 10^{-3} \text{ mm}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$). In 42 of the lesions the cystic-necrotic component demonstrated low signal intensity and the ADC values varied between $1.56 \times 10^{-3} \text{ mm}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$ and $3.32 \times 10^{-3} \text{ mm}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$ (mean value $2.36 \pm 0.46 \times 10^{-3} \text{ mm}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$). The difference between ADC values of atypical and typical lesions was statistically significant ($p < 0.001$). The vast majority of glioblastomas do not exhibit restricted diffusion in diffusion-weighted MRI, but some of them display homogeneous or heterogeneous high signal intensity and decrease of ADC values. Diffusion-weighted MRI alone is not helpful in the differentiation of malignant tumours from abscesses with low ADC values and similar conventional MRI findings.

Gliomas are the most common primary tumours of the central nervous system in adults [1]. The histology varies between low-grade (benign) and high-grade (malignant). The histopathological grading and differentiation from other lesions play a very significant role in planning therapy, evaluating prognosis and assessment of the response to therapy [2, 3]. Conventional MR images are sometimes not adequate to differentiate cystic glioblastomas from brain abscesses [3]. Diffusion-weighted MRI has been used in various pathologies such as ischaemia, infection and tumours [4]. In this method, strong magnetic gradients are applied and images from the movement of water in the biological tissues are obtained. The amount of diffusion is affected by the microstructure and micro-dynamic processes in the tissue, and the diffusion coefficients of the tissues can be measured quantitatively via the "apparent diffusion coefficient" (ADC) method [5]. There are many studies emphasising the value of diffusion-weighted MRI in differentiating malignant cystic tumours from brain abscesses. Generally, brain abscesses with their dense and viscous structure exhibit high signal intensity and their ADC value is low. On the other hand, cystic brain tumours are serous in nature and they display low signal intensity on diffusion-weighted images with high ADC values [6-9]. Brain tumours which contain infected or haemorrhagic material can show similar diffusion-weighted MRI signal properties as abscesses [10-12]. Though there is a limited number of reports about

atypical diffusion-weighted MRI findings of cystic or necrotic glioblastomas in the literature.

In this study our goal is to evaluate diffusion-weighted MRI findings of glioblastomas in a large series of patients, and to investigate the imaging characteristics of the lesions and the causes of atypical imaging features.

Materials and methods

48 patients with histologically proven glioblastomas between 2002 and 2005 were included in this study. They were aged between 26 years and 75 years (mean 51.4 years). The examinations were performed in two different 1.5 T super-conducting machines with gradient strengths of 23 mT m^{-1} and 25 mT m^{-1} . T_1 weighted images following contrast material administration in three planes were obtained in addition to T_1 and T_2 weighted images in axial plane. Diffusion-weighted MRI was performed with spin-echo echo-planar sequence. The gradients susceptible to diffusion were applied in three different directions at the same time (frequency, phase and slice selection) and mean trace values were obtained. b values of 0 and 1000 s mm^{-2} were used (b value represents the duration and the amplitude of the gradients used in diffusion-weighted sequences). ADC values were calculated automatically with the software systems of the equipment.

The diffusion-weighted MR images matching the cystic-necrotic component of the lesion in conventional sequences were evaluated. High signal intensity depicted in those areas was accepted as atypical, while low signal

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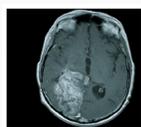
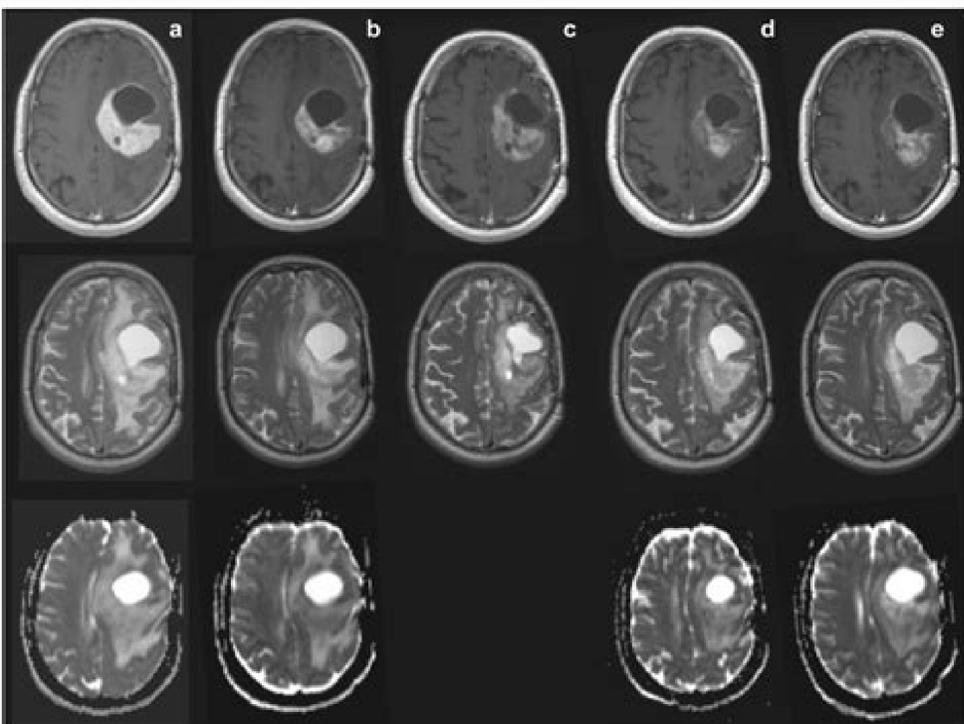
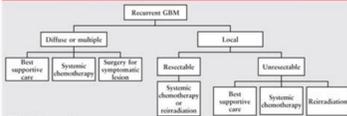


Figure 2. Summary of Treatment for Recurrent GBM



Scope: Continues...

- Additional clinical trial analysis by phase, trial size, trial duration and program failure rate analysis, for each molecule type and mechanism of action
- Multi-scenario forecasts of the GBM market from 2013 to 2020 in the four APAC countries
- An overview of key licensing and co-development agreements that could have an impact on growth trends
- Analysis of the key drivers and restraints that have had and are expected to have a significant impact on the market

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CLIK Document Reasonable Hypothesis SOP85 of 2016 Balance of Probabilities SOP86 of 2016 SOP bulletin 193ICD Coding: ICD-9-CM Codes: 191ICD-10-AM Codes: C71 Brief description This SOP covers cancers arising in the brain tissue itself, but not neoplasms of adjacent structures (e.g. meninges, pituitary gland), nor brain tumours of lymph or connective tissue (lymphomas and sarcomas), nor secondary brain tumours originating from other sites. For multiple neoplasms of the same site that are not contiguous, such as tumours in different quadrants of the same breast, codes for each site should be assigned. Malignant neoplasm of ectopic tissue Malignant neoplasms of ectopic tissue are to be coded to the site mentioned, e.g., ectopic pancreatic malignant neoplasms are coded to pancreas, unspecified (C25.9). In a few cases, such as for malignant melanoma and certain neuroendocrine tumors, the morphology (histologic type) is included in the category and codes. Primary malignant neoplasms overlapping site boundaries A primary malignant neoplasm that overlaps two or more contiguous (next to each other) sites should be classified to the subcategory/code .8 ("overlapping lesion"), unless the combination is classified to the subcategory/code .9. The Table of Neoplasms should be used to identify the correct topography code. There are more than 100 types of tumours that can affect the brain and the terminology can be confusing. The distinction between benign and malignant brain tumours is also less clear cut than for tumours arising at other sites. Confirming the diagnosis Histological confirmation is required for diagnosis. The relevant medical specialist is a neurosurgeon, neurologist, or oncologist. Diagnoses covered by SOP Common astrocytoma of any grade or type glioblastoma (multiforme) Uncommon astrocytoma choroid plexus carcinoma choroid plexus carcinoma of the brain (primary) embryonal carcinoma of the brain (primary) ependymoblastoma ependymoma ganglioglioma germinoma of the brain (primary) gliomatosis cerebri medulloblastoma medullophegliotheoma neuroblastoma oligodendroglioma oligodendroglioma pinealoma pinealoma spongioblastoma teratoma of the brain (primary) Conditions excluded from SOP Acoustic neuroma* choroid plexus papilloma, # ICD code 225.0 craniopharyngioma, # ICD code 237.0 dysembryoplastic neuroepithelial tumour, # ICD code 225.0 gangliocytoma, # (usually benign) ICD code 215.8 haemangioblastoma, # soft tissue sarcoma haemangiopericytoma, # soft tissue sarcoma Hodgkin's lymphoma of the brain "meningioma" neurilemmoma - acoustic neuroma neurilemmoma, # ICD code 215.8 non-Hodgkin's lymphoma of the brain "pituitary adenoma" schwannoma* - acoustic neuroma secondary/metastatic cancer involving the brain (code to primary cancer site) soft tissue sarcoma of the brain** another SOP applies # non-SOP condition Clinical onset The clinical presentation is highly variable. Initial symptoms may include headaches, seizures, focal neurological symptoms or cognitive dysfunction. Once the diagnosis has been confirmed, clinical onset can be backdated to the time of onset of the first symptoms that are clinically consistent with the location, size or other features of the tumour. Clinical worsening The only worsening factor is for inability to obtain appropriate clinical management. Appropriate treatment varies with the type and stage of the tumour and other factors. The natural history for most brain cancers is for disease progression. Neoplasms C71 ICD-10-CM Diagnosis Code C71.0 Malignant neoplasm of unspecified site of unspecified eye C69.90 Malignant neoplasm of unspecified site of unspecified eye C69.91 Malignant neoplasm of unspecified site of right eye C69.92 Malignant neoplasm of unspecified site of left eye C70 Malignant neoplasm of meninges C70.0 Malignant neoplasm of cerebral meninges C70.1 Malignant neoplasm of spinal meninges C70.9 Malignant neoplasm of meninges, unspecified C71 Malignant neoplasm of brain C71.0 Malignant neoplasm of brain C71.1 Malignant neoplasm of brain C71.2 Malignant neoplasm of brain C71.3 Malignant neoplasm of parietal lobe C71.4 Malignant neoplasm of occipital lobe C71.5 Malignant neoplasm of cerebral ventricle C71.6 Malignant neoplasm of cerebellum C71.7 Malignant neoplasm of brain stem C71.8 Malignant neoplasm of overlapping sites of brain C71.9 Malignant neoplasm of brain, unspecified C72 Malignant neoplasm of spinal cord, cranial nerves and other parts of central nervous system C72.0 Malignant neoplasm of spinal cord Reimbursement claims with a date of service on or after October 1, 2015 require the use of ICD-10-CM codes. An additional code from Chapter 4 may be used, to identify functional activity associated with any neoplasm. Morphology [Histology] Chapter 2 classifies neoplasms primarily by site (topography), with broad groupings for behavior, malignant, in situ, benign, etc. This is the American ICD-10-CM version of ICD-10 C71.1 - other international versions of ICD-10 C71.1 may differ. The following code(s) above C71.1 contain annotation back-references. In this context, annotation back-references refer to codes that contain: Applicable To annotations, or Code First annotations, or Excludes1 annotations, or Excludes2 annotations, or Includes annotations, or Note annotations, or Use Additional annotations that may be applicable to C71.1: C00-D49 2022 ICD-10-CM Range C00-D49 Neoplasms Note Functional activity All neoplasms are classified in this chapter, whether they are functionally active or not. 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 Billable/Specific Code C71.1 is a billable/specific ICD-10-CM code that can be used to indicate a diagnosis for reimbursement purposes. The 2022 edition of ICD-10-CM C71.1 became effective on October 1, 2021.

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