Press release

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Basic information

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Department of: Clinical Medicine

Main supervisor: Cai Grau

Title of dissertation: Radiation therapy of sinonasal cancer

Date for defence: 10.12.2021 at (time of day): 15.00 Place: Aarhus University Hospital, entrance C, Auditorium C114-101.

Press release (Danish)

Strålebehandling af kræft i næse og bihule

Kræft i næse og bihuler er en sjælden og alvorlig kræftsygdom. Da symptomerne kan forveksles med almindelig forkølelse, diagnosticeres sygdommen ofte i et sent stadie. De fleste patienter behandles med en kombination af operation og stråleterapi, og behandlingen vanskeliggøres af, at vigtige organer er lokaliseret nær tumorerne, herunder hjernen, øjnene og hypofysen. Bestråling af disse væv kan forårsage svære permanente skader der kan have stor betydning for patienternes livskvalitet. Det er derfor en stor udfordring at levere en tilstrækkelig strålebehandling mod kræftvævet og samtidig tage hensyn til risikoen for alvorlige senfølger.

I et Ph.D.-projekt fra Aarhus Universitet, Health, har man kortlagt senfølger hos patienter der har modtaget strålebehandling mod næse-bihule kræft i perioden 2008-2015. Man fandt at 37% af patienterne havde påvirket kognitiv funktion, 19% havde strålerelaterede senfølger i synsbanerne eller øjnene og 22% havde nedsat funktion af hypofysen. Resultaterne har givet anledning til at lave en fremadrettet systematisk opfølgning af senfølger hos denne patientgruppe i Danmark, og en udvidelse af de nationale retningslinjer for strålebehandling.

På baggrund af resultaterne i dette Ph.D. projekt arbejder man nu i Danmark med at etablere protonbehandling som mulig erstatning for den traditionelle strålebehandling.

Forsvaret af Ph.D.-projektet er offentligt og finder sted den 10/12 kl. 15.00 i auditorium C114-101, Aarhus Universitetshospital, Palle Juul Jensens Boulevard 99, indgang C, 8200 Aarhus N. Titlen på projektet er ”Radiation therapy of sinonasal cancer”. Yderligere oplysninger: Ph.D.-studerende Maja Bendtsen Sharma, e-mail: majasharma@oncology.au.dk, tlf. 27 28 20 39.

Bedømmelsesudvalg:
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Press release (English)

Radiation therapy of sinonasal cancer

Sinonasal cancer is a rare disease with a relatively poor prognosis. The symptoms mimic a common cold, and the tumours are often advanced at the time of diagnosis. The majority of patients are treated with a combination of radiotherapy and surgery, and the treatment is difficult due to important organs located close to the tumours, including the brain, the eyes, and the pituitary gland. Irradiation of these tissues might cause severe and permanent damage, with a potential significant impact on the patients' quality of life. It is therefore a major challenge to deliver sufficient radiation dose to the tumours while sparing adjacent organs.

In a Ph.D. project from Aarhus University, Health, late toxicity was evaluated in patients treated with curatively intended radiotherapy for sinonasal cancer in 2008-2015. A total of 37% of the patients had impaired cognitive function, 19% suffered radiation-induced damage to the eyes or the optic nerves, and 22% displayed radiation-induced pituitary insufficiency. Based on the results, a prospective systematic registration of late toxicity has been initiated in patients treated for sinonasal cancer in Denmark, and the national radiotherapy guidelines have been revised.

Based on the results from the Ph.D. project, proton therapy is now introduced in Denmark as a potential replacement of the traditional radiotherapy.

The defence of the Ph.D.-project is public, it takes place the 10th of December at 15.00 in Auditorium C114-101, Aarhus Universitety Hospital, Palle Juul Jensens Boulevard 99, entrance C, 8200 Aarhus N. The title of the project is ”Radiation therapy of sinonasal cancer”. For more information: Ph.D.-student Maja Bendtsen Sharma, e-mail: majasharma@oncology.au.dk, tlf. 27282039

Assessment committee:
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