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The 2021WHO CNS tumor classification includes CNS tumors with internal tandem duplications in the BCL6 corepressor (BCOR) gene as a new entity of CNS embryonal tumors labelled high-grade neuroepithelial tumors with BCOR alterations (HGNET-BCOR) are characterized by genetic aberrations in the BCOR gene located at Xp11.4, leading to increased expression of BCOR mRNA and distinct DNA methylation profiles. currently no agreement on the optimal strategy to manage these rare tumors, which mostly occur in young children These tumors are usually treated as high grade glioma HGG with upfront radiation therapy with poor outcome. We report 2.5 years old boy presenting with headache and vomiting. MRI showed a well-defined left cerebellar mass, hyperintense in T2 and hypointense in T1, with restricted diffusion and no spinal CSF seeding metastases. He underwent gross surgical resection of the tumor initial pathological diagnosis was epithelioid high grade malignant neoplasm. Brain tumor methylation classifier analysis of resected tumor tissue confirmed a CNS tumor with BCOR internal tandem duplication (WHO grade 4). The patient was treated per COG ACNS0334 (3 induction cycles of vincristine, cyclophosphamide, cisplatin, etoposide, HDMTX, followed by consolidation with 3 cycles of carboplatin and thiotepa with autologous hematopoietic stem cell rescue). MRI brain before the start of chemotherapy showed a small recurrent mass within the surgical cavity. post-induction MRI detected stable-sized residual lesion in the surgical cavity; however, post-consolidation MRI showed complete resolution of the residual mass. The patient subsequently received craniospinal irradiation (36 Gy [CSI]) with a boost to the tumor bed up to 54 Gy. By the time of writing this report our patient is still in complete remission. Our case showed that this aggressive brain tumor may respond well to intensive multimodalities therapy Further case studies and international prospective trials are needed to optimize the clinical management of these rare tumors.

ETMR-02. OVEREXPRESSION OF LIN28A IN NEURAL PROGENITOR CELLS IN VIVO DOES NOT LEAD TO BRAIN TUMOR FORMATION BUT RESULTS IN REDUCED SPINE DENSITY
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The RNA binding protein LIN28A is a stem- and progenitor marker and one of the factors necessary to induce pluripotent stem cells. An overexpression of LIN28A has been identified in malignant brain tumors called embryonal tumors with multilayered rosettes (ETMR) but its specific role during brain development remains largely unknown. Radial glia cells of the ventricular zone (VZ) are proposed as a cell of origin for ETMR. We asked whether an overexpression of LIN28A in such cells might affect brain development or result in the formation of brain tumors. Constitutive overexpression of LIN28A in *bGFAP-cre::Isl-Lin28A* (GL) mice led to a transient increase of proliferation in the cortical VZ at embryonic stages but no postnatal brain tumor formation. Postnatally, GL mice displayed a pyramidal cell layer dispersion of the hippocampus and altered spine and dendrite morphology, including reduced dendritic spine densities in the hippocampus and cortex. GL mice displayed hyperkinetic activity and differential quantitative MS-based proteomics revealed altered time dependent molecular functions regarding mRNA processing and spine morphogenesis. Phosphoproteomic analyses indicated a downregulation of mTOR pathway modulated proteins such as Map1b being involved in microtubule dynamics within a crosstalk of Gsk3b/Rho-Rac/Map1b signaling. In conclusion, we show that Lin28A overexpression transiently increases proliferation of neural precursor cells but it is not sufficient to drive brain tumors *in vivo*. In contrast, Lin28A impacts on protein abundance patterns related to spine morphogenesis and phosphorylation levels of proteins involved in microtubule dynamics, resulting in decreased spine densities of neurons in the hippocampus and cortex as well as in altered behavior. Our work provides new insights into the role of LIN28A for neuronal morphogenesis and development and may reveal future targets for treatment of ETMR patients.

ETMR-03. INTRA- AND EXTRA-CRANIAL BCOR-ITD TUMOURS ARE SEPARATE ENTITIES WITHIN THE BCOR-REARRANGED FAMILY

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BCOR-ITD tumours form an emerging family of aggressive entities with an internal tandem duplication (ITD) in the last exon of the BCOR gene. The family includes cerebral tumours, termed central nervous system BCOR-ITD (CNS BCOR-ITD), and sarcomatous types described in the kidney as clear cell sarcoma of the kidney (CCSK), in the endometrium as high-grade endometrial stromal sarcoma (HG-ESS), in bone, and in soft tissue as undifferentiated round cell sarcoma (URCS) or primitive myxoid mesenchymal tumour of infancy (PMMTI). Based on a series of 33 retrospective cases, including 10 CNS BCOR-ITD and 23 BCOR-ITD sarcomas, we interrogated the homogeneity of the entity regarding clinical, radiological and histopathological findings, and molecular signatures. Whole transcriptomic sequencing and DNA methylation profiling were used for unsupervised clustering. Histopathological review revealed marked differences between CNS BCOR-ITD and BCOR-ITD sarcomas. These two groups were consistently segregated by unsupervised clustering of expression (n=22) and DNA methylation (n=21) data. Proximity between the two groups may result from common somatic changes within key pathways directly related to the novel activity of the ITD itself. Conversely, comparison of gene signatures with single-cell RNAseq atlases suggests that the distinction between BCOR-ITD sarcomas and CNS BCOR-ITD may result from differences in cells of origin.

ETMR-04. EMBRYONAL TUMOR WITH MULTI-LAYERED ROSETTES (ETMR) LOCATED IN THE BRAINSTEM: A CASE REPORT ON CLINICAL DECISION-MAKING AND A MULTIMODAL, INTERDISCIPLINARY TREATMENT APPROACH INCLUDING INTERSTITIAL BRACHYTHERAPY

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OBJECTIVE: Embryonal tumors with multi-layered rosettes (ETMR) (CNS WHO grade 4) comprise a rare and malignant tumor type affecting predominantly infants below 3 years of age. The treatment consists of maximal safe surgical resection, irradiation, and intensive medulloblastoma type chemotherapy. Despite aggressive treatment, the prognosis of these patients remains poor, especially for brainstem tumors. We present the case of a male infant diagnosed with a brainstem ETMR, successfully treated with an interdisciplinary multimodal approach, including stereotactic interstitial brachytherapy. **RESULTS:** A 19 month old boy first presented with hemiparesis, intermittent bradycardia and reduced consciousness. Initial imaging showed a brainstem lesion with characteristic features of a diffuse intrinsic pontine glioma (DIPG). We performed stereotactic biopsy to confirm the diagnosis and initiated temozolomide treatment. While the pathology result was still pending, the boy's clinical condition deteriorated to a soporic state with stretch synergisms. By emergency open surgery, partial resection was achieved. Eventually, the patient recovered rapidly. After the diagnosis of ETMR was established, medulloblastoma type chemotherapy (systemic carboplatin/etoposide; intrathecal methotrexate) was administered. After two cycles, the patient showed only residual right-sided hemiparesis. However, imaging demonstrated only a minimal reduction of the tumor size. Therefore, stereotactic interstitial brachytherapy using Iodine seeds and subsequent high-dose chemotherapy (HDCT) with autologous stem cell transplantation (ASCT) was performed and overall tolerated well. After two months of brachytherapy and two

additional cycles of chemotherapy, the MRI showed $\geq 50\%$ reduction in tumor volume and no neurological deficit can be clinically detected. **CONCLUSION:** This case indicates that stereotactic interstitial brachytherapy during intensive systemic chemotherapy is feasible. It may provide a suitable treatment for malignant infant brain tumors. Furthermore, it shows that paediatric patients are capable of recovery even after devastating neurological symptoms. Lastly, it emphasizes the importance of multidisciplinary and multimodal treatment for rare diseases.

ETMR-05. SINGLE-CELL TRANSCRIPTOMICS OF ETMR REVEALS DEVELOPMENTAL CELLULAR PROGRAMS AND TUMOR-PERICYTE COMMUNICATIONS IN THE MICROENVIRONMENT

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BACKGROUND: Embryonal tumors with multilayered rosettes (ETMR) are pediatric brain tumors bearing a grim prognosis, despite intensive multimodal therapeutic approaches. Insights into cellular heterogeneity and cellular communication of tumor cells with cells of the tumor microenvironment (TME), by applying single-cell (sc) techniques, potentially identify mechanisms of therapy resistance and target-directed treatment approaches. **MATERIAL AND METHODS:** To explore ETMR cell diversity, we used single-cell RNA sequencing (scRNA-seq) in human (n=2) and murine ETMR (transgenic mode; n=4) samples, spatial transcriptomics, 2D and 3D cultures (including co-cultures with TME cells), multiplex immunohistochemistry and drug screens. **RESULTS:** ETMR microenvironment is composed of tumor and non-tumor cell types. The ETMR malignant compartment harbour cells representing distinct transcriptional metaprograms, (NSC-like, NProg-like and Neuroblast-like), mirroring embryonic neurogenic cell states and fuelled by neurogenic pathways (WNT, SHH, Hippo). The ETMR TME is composed of oligodendrocyte and neuronal progenitor cells, neuroblasts, microglia, and pericytes. Tumor-specific ligand-receptor interaction analysis showed enrichment of intercellular communication between NProg-like ETMR cells and pericytes (PC). Functional network analyses reveal ETMR-PC interactions related to stem-cell signalling and extracellular matrix (ECM) organization, involving factors of the WNT, BMP, and CxCl12 networks. Results from ETMR-PC co-culture and spatial transcriptomics pointed to a pivotal role of pericytes in keeping ETMR in a germinal neurogenic state, enriched in stem-cell signalling. Drug screening considering cellular heterogeneity and cellular communication suggested novel therapeutic approaches. **CONCLUSION:** ETMR demonstrated diversity in the microenvironment, with enrichment of cell-cell communications with pericytes, supporting stem-cell signalling and interfering in the organization of the tumor extracellular matrix. Targeting ETMR-PC interactions might bring new opportunities for target-directed therapy.

ETMR-06. MOLECULAR AND CLINICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF CNS TUMORS WITH *BCOR(L1)* FUSION/INTERNAL TANDEM DUPLICATION

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Central nervous system (CNS) tumor with *BCOR* internal tandem duplication (*BCOR*-ITD) have recently been introduced in the 5th edition of the WHO classification of CNS tumors, however, their molecular makeup and clinical characteristics remain widely enigmatic. This is further complicated by the recent discovery of tumors characterized by gene fusions involving *BCOR* or its homologue *BCORL1*. We identified a cohort of 206 *BCOR* altered CNS tumors via DNA methylation profiling and conducted *in-depth* molecular and clinical characterization in an international effort. By performing t-SNE clustering analysis we found that *BCOR*-fusion tumors form a distinct cluster (n=61), adjacent to *BCOR*-ITD cases (n=145). The identified fusion partners of *BCOR(L1)* included *EP300* (n=20), *CREBBP* (n=5), and *NUTM2HP* (n=1). Notably, three cases within the *BCOR*-ITD cluster harbored a c-terminal intragenic deletion within *BCOR*. With respect to clinical characteristics gender ratio was balanced in *BCOR*-fusion cases (m/f, 1.1), whereas predominance of male patients was observed in the *BCOR*-ITD group (m/f, 1.5). Moreover, age at diagnosis of *BCOR*-fusion patients was higher as compared to *BCOR*-ITD cases (15 vs 4.5 years). Interestingly, *BCOR*-fusion tumors were exclusively found in the supratentorial region being originally diagnosed as ependymomas or gliomas whereas *BCOR*-ITD emerged across the entire CNS with diverse original diagnoses. 8% of *BCOR*-ITD and none of *BCOR*-fusion cases were disseminated at diagnosis. In line with this observation, 40% of first relapses within the *BCOR*-ITD group were metastatic which was less frequent in *BCOR*-fusion tumors. Survival estimates demonstrated no differences, generally showing short median PFS (*BCOR*-fusion, 2 years, n=15; *BCOR*-ITD, 1.8 years, n=55) and intermediate OS rates (*BCOR*-fusion, 6.8 years, n=18; *BCOR*-ITD 6.3 years, n=60). Further molecular and clinical characterization is ongoing potentially revealing first therapeutic leads for these highly aggressive CNS tumor types.

ETMR-07. DNA METHYLATION PROFILING OF A SERIES OF RARE CNS EMBRYONAL TUMORS IN CHILDREN: DIAGNOSTIC AND CLINICAL IMPACT

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BACKGROUND: CNS embryonal tumors are a clinically and biologically heterogeneous group of tumors, more frequently arising in very young chil-