MEDB-24. TUMOUR SECRETED EXTRACELLULAR MATRIX PREDICTS SURVIVAL AND INFLUENCES MIGRATION AND CELL DEATH IN SHH MEDULLOBLASTOMA 3D MODELS

James Johnson, Franziska Linke, Cathy Merry, Beth Coyle; University of Nottingham, Nottingham, United Kingdom

Medulloblastoma is the most common malignant paediatric brain tumour. Four molecular sub-groups exist (WNT, Sonic hedgehog (SHH), Group 3 and Group 4), each associated with different patterns of metastasis and chemoresistance. We have shown that within these sub-groups further clinically relevant sub-types exist, characterised by differential expression of extracellular matrix (ECM) proteins. For example, good overall survival in two-thirds of SHH sub-group patients is associated with the expression of specific ECM proteins. Our aim here is to further characterise these ECM components in SHH medulloblastoma and to determine how they confer better overall survival in this sub-group. Using a combination of 3D OrbiSIMs and immunohistochemical staining we have identified, that when grown in 3D hyaluronic acid hydrogels or as spheroids, SHH medulloblastoma cell lines form an ECM shell-like structure composed of laminin, collagen and lumican. In addition, scRNAseq of SHH hydrogel nodules revealed sub-group specific clusters of cells with high levels of ECM interaction and adhesion. We therefore hypothesise that ECM interaction restricts SHH tumour invasion and metastasis through this shell-like structure. To understand how this ECM shell-like structure potentiates better survival in SHH medulloblastoma we have created a CRISPRcas9 laminin knockout SHH medulloblastoma cell line. 3D culture of the laminin knockout cell line demonstrated that laminin is essential for the formation of 3D cell structures as well as migration in SHH medulloblastoma. Furthermore, we have identified that apoptosis is increased in the laminin knockout SHH cell line, suggesting that apoptosis-targeted therapeutics may represent a beneficial treatment option for SHH patients whose tumours exhibit this ECM shell. In summary, tumour-secreted ECM plays a major role in SHH medulloblastoma progression. Expression of laminin, collagen or lumican can be used to classify SHH patients into low and high-risk groups with different therapeutic outcomes and treatment options.

MEDB-25. DO EXTRACELLULAR VESICLES TRANSFER A MULTIDRUG RESISTANT PHENOTYPE VIA ABC TRANSPORTERS IN MEDULLOBLASTOMA?

Philippa Wade, Hannah Jackson, Louisa Taylor, Alistair Hume, Ian Kerr, Beth Coyle; University of Nottingham, Nottingham, Nottinghamshire, United Kingdom

INTRODUCTION: Medulloblastoma is the most common malignant paediatric brain tumour accounting for 20% of all childhood tumours; approximately one-third of patients present with metastatic disease at diagnosis and the outcome for these patients remains very poor. The high frequency of recurrence and metastatic relapse in medulloblastoma supports the idea of intrinsic drug resistance within cells. This work looks at the ATP-binding cassette (ABC) transporters, known to be upregulated in several cancers, and we hypothesise that extracellular vesicles may transfer ABC transporters to surrounding cells, promoting multidrug resistance within tumours. METHODS: The Cavalli dataset, made up of 763 patient samples, was used to assess the gene expression of a number of ABC transporters across medulloblastoma subgroups. ABC transporter gene and protein expression was then further assessed in medulloblastoma cell lines, including drug-tolerant lines, using qPCR and western blot. Cell viability analysis was used to assess changes in drug response. Matched cell and EV protein samples were used for proteomic analysis. RESULTS: Patient gene expression data showed that high expression of two ABC transporters correlated with reduced patient survival in high-risk subgroups. qPCR analysis of medulloblastoma cell lines showed differential subgroup expression patterns. Additionally, qPCR analysis of drug-tolerant cell lines showed significant increases in the expression of specific drug transporters across the subgroups. RNA-seq confirmed the presence of ABC transporter mRNA in exosomes isolated from high-risk medulloblastoma cell lines. Functional studies of EV transference of ABC transporters are ongoing. CONCLUSIONS: Data to date supports the hypothesis that multidrug transporter carrying extracellular vesicles may transfer their multidrug resistant phenotype to surrounding cells in medulloblastoma, promoting drug resistance. Future work will test this hypothesis by knocking down candidate ABC transporters and assessing the effect on transference of drug resistance by extracellular vesicles.

MEDB-26. OUTCOMES OF CHILDREN WITH STANDARD-RISK AND HIGH-RISK MEDULLOBLASTOMA TREATED WITH PRE-IRRADIATION CHEMOTHERAPY AND RISK-ADAPTED CRANIOSPINAL IRRADIATION: A REPORT ON PATIENTS FROM THE POLISH PEDIATRIC NEURO-ONCOLOGY GROUP

Marta Perek-Polnik[1], Anne Cochrane[2], M Chojnacka[3], M Drogosiewicz[1], I Filipek[1], E Swieszkowska[1], M Tarasinska[1], P Kowalczyk[4], Mohamed S. Abdelbaki[2], Bożenna Dembowska-Bagińska[1]; [1]The Children's Memorial Health Institute, Department of Oncology, Warsaw, Poland. [2]Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, St. Louis, Missouri, USA. [3]Maria Sklodowska-Curie National Research Institute of Oncology, Pediatric Radiotherapy Centre, Warsaw, Poland. [4]The Children's Memorial Health Institute, Department of Neurosurgery, Warsaw, Poland

BACKGROUND: The last two decades have witnessed several efforts to minimize the adverse sequelae of craniospinal irradiation (CSI), a standard of care treatment modality in medulloblastoma. This has been accomplished by adding chemotherapy to the treatment backbone. The use of pre-irradiation chemotherapy has also been previously reported. In one of the largest studies to date, we analyze treatment outcomes in children with standard and high-risk medulloblastoma treated with pre-irradiation chemotherapy followed by reduced-dose radiotherapy in SR and maintenance chemotherapy. METHODS: Data from the Polish Pediatric Neuro-oncology Group (PPNG) was analyzed in patients greater than 3 years of age with newly-diagnosed medulloblastoma. RESULTS : Among 138 patients, median age at diagnosis was 7.9 years and median follow-up was 5.5 years. Comprehensive molecular subgrouping was not available for all patients at the time of data collection. Of 60 standard-risk patients, there was pre-irradiation disease recurrence in one patient. One patient expired prior to radiation due to metastatic disease. Of 78 high-risk patients, one had pre-irradiation recurrence. Overall survival (OS) for high-risk patients at 3 and 5 years (± standard error) was 89.2 ± 4.0% and 81.3 ± 5.8%, respectively. OS for standard-risk patients at 3 and 5 years was 92.5 ± 3.8% and 88.2 ± 5.1%, respectively. Among high-risk patients, event-free survival (EFS) at 3 and 5 years was 82.5 ± 5.3% and 81.0 ± 5.6%. Among standard-risk patients, 3-year EFS was 89.2 ± 4.6% and 5-year EFS was 86.8 ± 5.3%. CONCLUSION : This study demonstrates promising survival outcomes in pediatric medulloblastoma patients treated with pre-irradiation chemotherapy followed by reduced-dose CSI and adjuvant chemotherapy. Such an approach may be helpful if delays in starting radiotherapy are expected, which is usually the case in many institutions around the globe.

MEDB-27. CLINICO-RADIOLOGICAL OUTCOMES IN WNT-PATHWAY MEDULLOBLASTOMA: RETROSPECTIVE SINGLE INSTITUTIONAL AUDIT

Shakthivel Mani[1], Abhishek Chatterjee[1], Epari Sridhar[2], Ayushi Sahay[2], Neelam Shirsat[2], Aliasgar Moiyadi[3], Prakash Shetty[3], Girish Chinnaswamy[4], Vijay Patil[5], Archya Dasgupta[1], Nazia Bano[1], Tejpal Gupta[1]; [1]Departments of Radiation Oncology, Tata Memorial Hospital (TMH)/Advanced Centre for Treatment Research and Education in Cancer (ACTREC), Tata Memorial Centre, Homi Bhabha National Institute (HBNI), Mumbai, Maharashtra, India. [2]Departments of Pathology,Neuro-oncology Laboratory, Tata Memorial Hospital (TMH)/Advanced Centre for Treatment Research and Education in Cancer (ACTREC), Tata Memorial Centre, Homi Bhabha National Institute (HBNI), Mumbai, Maharashtra, India. [3]Departments of Neuro-surgical Oncology, Advanced Centre for Treatment Research & Education in Cancer (ACTREC)/Tata Memorial Hospital (TMH), Tata Memorial Centre, Homi Bhabha National Institute (HBNI), Mumbai, Maharashtra, India. [4]Departments of Pediatric Oncology,Tata Memorial Hospital (TMH)/Advanced Centre for Treatment Research and Education in Cancer (ACTREC), Tata Memorial Centre, Homi Bhabha National Institute (HBNI), Mumbai, Maharashtra, India. [5]Departments of Medical Oncology, Tata Memorial Hospital (TMH)/Advanced Centre for Treatment Research and Education in Cancer (ACTREC), Tata Memorial Centre, Homi Bhabha National Institute (HBNI), Mumbai, Maharashtra, India

BACKGROUND: Medulloblastoma (MB) is a heterogeneous disease comprising 4 molecular subgroups - wingless (WNT), sonic hedgehog, Group 3, and Group 4 tumors - with distinct developmental origins, diverse clinico-demographic characteristics, unique transcriptional profiles, and widely varying outcomes. WNT-MB is associated with the best outcomes (5-year survival >90%) prompting attempts at treatment de-escalation to reduce late toxicity. We undertook a clinical audit of WNT-MB patients treated at our tertiary-care comprehensive cancer centre. METHODS: Patients with molecularly confirmed WNT-MB treated with maximal safe resection followed by post-operative standard-of-care risk-stratified adjuvant radio(chemo)therapy were identified retrospectively via electronic search of the neuro-oncology database. Data regarding clinico-demographic characteristics, histo-molecular features, treatment details, patterns of failure, and survival outcomes was retrieved from electronic medical records and/or hospital case files. Time-to-event outcomes were analyzed using Kaplan-Meier methods and compared with the log-rank test. RESULTS: Between 2004 to 2018, a total of 65 patients of WNT-MB were registered at our institute. Five patients treated on a prospective clinical trial of therapy de-intensification were excluded leaving 60 patients that constitute the present study cohort. Median age at presentation was 12 years (inter-quartile range 9-18 years) with male preponderance (2:1). Six patients (1 post-operative mortality