

## INTRACRANIAL TUMORS IN THE FIRST YEAR OF AGE

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**Background:** The incidence of brain tumors within the first year of life is estimated at 1,1 per 100,000 live births. The aim of our study was to evaluate the data of central nervous system tumors in children under 1 year of age.

**Results:** From January 1981 to December 2000 63 infants with newly diagnosed central nervous system tumors were registered in Hungary, from them 11 were treated at our hospital. The male-female ratio was 5:6, mean age at the time of diagnosis was 5,5 months. The neoplasms were localized in the posterior fossa in 7 and in the supratentorial compartment in 4 patients. The histological types of the tumors were medulloblastoma/primitive neuroectodermal tumor /5/, astrocytoma /2/, choroid plexus center /2/, ependymoma /1/ and one case was not specified. In 5 infants the first presenting sign was vomiting, in 4 cases hydrocephalus, and in one case the intracranial tumor was detected already in the intrauterine period. 10 patients got chemotherapy. In 3 cases we achieved complete remission, in 2 cases partial remission and in 4 cases the tumor progressed in spite of the chemotherapy. From these 11 patients 3 are still alive. 8 patients died because of the progress of their tumor - 7 died within one year and one patient 2,3 years after the diagnosis.

**Conclusion:** Brain tumors in the infant period occur quite rarely. 28% complete remission could be achieved by surgery and chemotherapy. To improve these data an international study is warranted.

