

# ***SOFT TISSUE SARCOMA***

An essay

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# الأورام السرطانية في الأنسجة الرخوة

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## المقدمة

ينشأ الورم عندما تنمو خلايا جزء من الجسد و تخرج عن نطاق التحكم ، و على الرغم من وجود عدة أنواع من الأورام ، فالكل يبدأ بسبب نمو خارج عن التحكم في خلايا غير طبيعية . خلايا الجسد الطبيعية تنمو و تنقسم و تموت بنظام ثابت ، ففي خلال السنوات الأولى من حياة الإنسان ، تنقسم الخلايا أسرع حتى يصبح الإنسان يافعاً ، و بعد ذلك تنقسم هذه الخلايا فقط لتحل محل الخلايا الميتة و التالفة في معظم أنحاء الجسد . تختلف خلايا الأورام عن الخلايا الطبيعية في تكوين خلايا غير طبيعية وتستمر في النمو و الانقسام .

خلايا الأورام تنتج بسبب خلل في الحمض النووي و الذي يوجد في كل خلية لتوجيه أنشطتها ، و في معظم الأوقات التي يتلف فيها الحمض النووي يكون الجسم قادراً على إعادة بنائه مرة أخرى ، و لكن في خلايا الأورام لا يمكن إعادة بنائه ، و الإنسان يمكنه وراثته حمض نووي به خلل مما يؤدي إلى وراثته الأورام .

و يتلف الحمض النووي للإنسان بالتعرض إلى عوامل بيئية معينة مثل التدخين . و تعد الأورام السرطانية في الأنسجة الرخوة أوراماً نادرة ، حيث تمثل ١ % من أورام الكبار ، و ١٥ % من أورام الأطفال .

لم يتم التعرف على سبب معين للإصابة بالأورام السرطانية في الأنسجة الرخوة في معظم المصابين ، و لكن توجد علاقة واضحة بين عوامل بيئية معينة و حدوث مثل هذه الأورام ، و من ضمنها التعرض للإشعاعات المتأينة .

و يوجد أكثر من ٥٠ نوع من هذه الأورام ، و التي يتم تشخيصها بالجينات الوراثية و معايير شكلية أخرى .

و الطريقة التي يتم بها التعبير عن طريقة انتشار الورم تسمى التصنيف ، و يتم هذا التصنيف بدراسة عينات من الورم و عمل الأشعاعات مثل أشعة الرنين المغناطيسي و الأشعة المقطعية و المسح الذري .

و تصنيف الورم يحدد الطريقة التي تتم بها طريقة العلاج سواء كان علاجاً جراحياً أو إشعاعياً أو كيميائياً أو الجمع بين أي منها .

## هدف الرسالة

إن الهدف من الرسالة هو مراجعة الأنواع المختلفة للأورام السرطانية في الأنسجة الرخوة ، و تشخيص و علاج كل نوع .

# محتويات الرسالة

الصفحة

١	المقدمة
٣	الفصل الأول : تصنيف الأورام السرطانية في الأنسجة الرخوة
٨	الفصل الثاني : طبيعة المرض و البيولوجيا الجزيئية
٣١	الفصل الثالث : التشخيص
٤٢	الفصل الرابع : طرق العلاج المختلفة
٥٦	الفصل الخامس : عوامل تقدم المرض
٥٩	الملخص الإنجليزي
٥٩	المراجع
	الملخص العربي

## ملخص الرسالة

يمثل علاج الأورام السرطانية في الأنسجة الرخوة تحدياً للجراحين ؛ حيث أصبح في الإمكان - مع مراعاة بعض الاحتياطات - المحافظة على الطرف المصاب بالورم بعد تطور العلاج المصاحب للجراحة ( الكيميائي و الإشعاعي ) ؛ في حين كان بتر الطرف المصاب هو العلاج السائد في الماضي كمحاولة للحفاظ على حياة المريض.

# CONTENTS

	<i>page</i>
<b>Introduction</b>	1
<b>Chapter I</b> : Classification of Soft Tissue Sarcoma	3
<b>Chapter II</b> : Pathology and Molecular Biology	8
<b>Chapter III</b> : Diagnosis and Staging of Soft Tissue Sarcoma	31
<b>Chapter IV</b> : Management of Soft Tissue Sarcomas	42
<b>Chapter V</b> : Prognostic Factors	56
<b>Summary</b>	59
<b>References</b>	61
<b>Summary in Arabic</b>	

## List of Figures

	<i>Page</i>
<i>Figure (1)</i> : Distribution of extremity sarcoma by histology	8
<i>Figure (2)</i> : Malignant fibrous histiocytoma in the forearm	13
<i>Figures (3),(4)</i> : Malignant fibrous histiocytoma	14
<i>Figure (5)</i> : Well-differentiated liposarcoma	17
<i>Figure (6)</i> : Myxoid liposarcoma	17
<i>Figure (7)</i> : Biphasic synovial sarcoma	19
<i>Figure (8)</i> : Monophasic synovial sarcoma	19
<i>Figure (9)</i> : Poorly differentiated synovial sarcoma	19
<i>Figure (10)</i> : Inflammatory fibrosarcoma	20
<i>Figure (11)</i> : Fibrosarcoma	21
<i>Figure (12)</i> : Leiomyosarcoma, <i>Gross Picture</i>	21
<i>Figure (13)</i> : Leiomyosarcoma, <i>Microscopic Picture</i>	22
<i>Figure (14)</i> : High grade leiomyosarcoma	22
<i>Figure (15)</i> : Embryonal rhabdomyosarcoma	23
<i>Figures (16 - A &amp; B)</i> : Alveolar rhabdomyosarcoma	24
<i>Figure (17)</i> : MRI of pleomorphic malignant fibrous histeocytoma	37
<i>Figure (18)</i> : MRI of synovial sarcoma of the proximal thigh	37
<i>Figure (19)</i> : CT of synovial sarcoma of the thigh	38
<i>Figure (20)</i> : CT of malignant fibrous histiocytoma of the calf	38



## List of Tables

	<i><b>Page</b></i>
<i>Table (1)</i> : Classification of STS according to glycogen	9
<i>Table (2)</i> : Phases of cell cycle	26
<i>Table (3)</i> : Chromosomal translocation and fusion gene in bone and STS	28
<i>Table (4)</i> : Staging system of the AJCC	32
<i>Table (5)</i> : Modification of staging system of the AJCC	33
<i>Table (6)</i> : Surgical staging system by musculoskeletal tumour society	34
<i>Table (7)</i> : Biopsy/radiographic staging	45
<i>Table (8)</i> : Site - specific STS survival	56
<i>Table (9)</i> : Prognostic factors relevant to STS survival not included in AJCC STS staging system	57
<i>Table (10)</i> : Margin status impact on STS recurrence	57
<i>Table (11)</i> : Impact of local recurrence on subsequent recurrence	57
<i>Table (12)</i> : Tumour size impact on STS disease - specific survival	58
<i>Table (13)</i> : Molecular markers of potential importance in prognosis of soft tissue sarcomas	58

## List of Abbreviations

<b>AIDS</b>	: Acquired immunodeficiency syndrome
<b>AJCC</b>	: American Journal Committee on Cancer
<b>ATF1</b>	: Activating transcription factor 1 gene
<b>ATM</b>	: Ataxia telangiectasia mutated gene
<b>BRCA 1, 2</b>	: Breast cancer, early onset, genes 1 and 2
<b>CNB</b>	: Core-needle biopsy
<b>CT</b>	: Computed tomography
<b>DFSP</b>	: Dermatofibrosarcoma protuberans
<b>DNA</b>	: Deoxyribonucleic acid
<b>ERG</b>	: V-ets avian erythroblastosis virus e26 oncogene-related gene
<b>ETS</b>	: Ewing's sarcoma translocation genes
<b>ETV1, 4, 6</b>	: ETS variant genes 1, 4, and 6
<b>EWS</b>	: Ewing's sarcoma breakpoint region 1 gene
<b>FDG</b>	: Fluoro - deoxy D - glucose
<b>FKHR</b>	: Forkhead homolog 1 gene
<b>FLII</b>	: Friend leukemia virus integration 1 gene
<b>FNAB</b>	: Fine-needle aspiration biopsy
<b>GU</b>	: Genitourinary
<b>HHV-8</b>	: Human herpes virus - 8
<b>HIV</b>	: Human immunodeficiency virus
<b>IGF 1 R</b>	: Insulin-like growth factor type 1 receptor
<b>KIT</b>	: V-kit Hardy-Zuckerman 4 feline sarcoma viral oncogene homolog gene
<b>LMS</b>	: Leiomyosarcoma
<b>MDM2</b>	: Human homolog of murine double minute 2 gene
<b>MFH</b>	: Malignant fibrous histiocytoma
<b>MRI</b>	: Magnetic resonance imaging
<b>NCI</b>	: National Cancer Institute
<b>PAX 3, 7</b>	: Paired box homeotic genes 3 and 7
<b>PDGFR alpha</b>	: Platelet-derived growth factor receptor alpha
<b>PET</b>	: Positron emission tomography
<b>PNET</b>	: Primitive neuroectodermal tumours
<b>RB1</b>	: Retinoblastoma gene
<b>RMS</b>	: Rhabdomyosarcoma
<b>RT</b>	: Radiotherapy
<b>SSX1, 2, 4</b>	: Synovial sarcoma, x breakpoint genes 1, 2, and 4
<b>STS</b>	: Soft tissue sarcoma
<b>SYT</b>	: Synovial sarcoma translocation gene
<b>TNM</b>	: Tumour, lymph node and metastasis
<b>TP53</b>	: Tumor protein 53 gene
<b>VEGF</b>	: Vascular endothelial growth factor
<b>WT1</b>	: Wilms tumor 1 gene

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**Ahmed Abdel-Hameed**

## **AIM OF THE WORK**

The ongoing study is designed to review recent literature about the different types of soft tissue sarcoma, diagnosis and management of each type.

## INTRODUCTION

Cancer develops when cells in a part of the body begin to grow out of control. Although there are many kinds of cancer, they all start because of out-of-control growth of abnormal cells. Normal body cells grow, divide, and die in an orderly fashion. During the early years of person's life, normal cells divide more rapidly until the person becomes an adult. After that, cells in most parts of the body divide only to replace worn-out or dying cells and to repair injuries. Because cancer cells continue to grow and divide, they are different from normal cells. Instead of dying, they outlive normal cells and continue to form new abnormal cells. Cancer cells develop because of damage to DNA. This substance is in every cell and directs all its activities. Most of the time when DNA becomes damaged the body is able to repair it. In cancer cells, the damaged DNA is not repaired. People can inherit damaged DNA, which accounts for inherited cancers. Many times though, a person's DNA becomes damaged by exposure to something in the environment, like smoking. <sup>(1)</sup>

Soft tissue sarcoma comprises a group of relatively rare but anatomically and histologically diverse neoplasm. These tumours share a common embryonic origin, arising primarily from tissues derived from the mesoderm, with the notable exception of neurosarcomas, primitive neuroectodermal tumours (PNET) and possibly Ewing sarcomas which are thought to arise from tissues of ectodermal origin. Despite the fact that the skeleton and somatic soft tissue account for as much as 75% of total body weight, neoplasms of the soft tissues are comparatively rare, accounting for 1% of adult malignancies and 15% of pediatric malignancies. <sup>(2)</sup>

No specific etiologic agent is identified in the overwhelming majority of patients with soft tissue sarcoma. There are a number of recognized associations between specific environmental factors and subsequent development of sarcoma. Exposure to environmental toxins has been limited with development of this specific sarcoma: mesothelioma (asbestos) and hepatic angiosarcoma (thorotrast and vinyl chloride). Ionizing radiation has been indicated as a cause of sarcoma arising in soft tissue and bone. The latent period averages approximately 10 years but ranges between 2 and 30 years, and the

prognosis is usually poor. The epidemiologic relationship between the development of soft tissue sarcoma and inherited syndromes associated with predisposition to sarcoma has been appreciated for more than two decades. Neurofibromatosis, tuberous sclerosis, basal cell nevus syndrome and pediatric patients with familial retinoblastoma have a 13 q chromosomal deletion and an increased incidence of osteosarcoma and other second primary neoplasms including soft tissue sarcoma. Sarcomas rarely develop from preexisting benign soft tissue tumours.<sup>(3)</sup>

There are over 50 subtypes of this disease, which are currently diagnosed by genetic and morphological criteria. Those most frequently seen include liposarcoma, leiomyosarcoma, malignant fibrous histiocyoma (MFH), fibrosarcoma, and synovial sarcoma.<sup>(4)</sup>

The process of finding out how far the cancer has spread is called staging. In sarcoma staging, doctors also evaluate the appearance of the tumour under the microscope and judge how fast the cancer seems to be growing. The information needed to stage sarcomas includes biopsies, imaging tests of the main tumour (usually with CT or MRI scans), and imaging tests of other parts of the body where the cancer may have spread.

When examining the biopsy sample, the pathologist takes into account the number of cells that are actively dividing and how closely the cancer resembles normal tissue. He or she determines the cell type and grade and estimates how rapidly it will grow and spread. The stage of a sarcoma is the most significant factor in determining each patient's prognosis and in selecting treatment options.<sup>(5)</sup>

Most of sarcomas could be treated with surgical excision, chemotherapy, radiotherapy, or combination of all.<sup>(1)</sup>

# Chapter I

## Classification of Soft Tissue Sarcoma

Earlier classifications have been largely descriptive and have been based more on the nuclear configuration than the type of tumour cell. Terms such as round cell, spindle cell or pleomorphic sarcoma should be discouraged because they are meaningless and convey little information as to the nature and potential behavior of a given tumour. <sup>(6)</sup>

More recent classifications have been based on the line of differentiation of the tumour, that is the type of tissue formed by the tumour rather than the type of tissue from which the tumour arise.

The World Health Organization proposed classifications, these classifications based on different tumour categories, ranging from fibrous, adipose, and muscle tumour to tumour of uncertain histological type and tumour that cannot be further classified. The last category includes 5-15 % of all sarcomas depending on the quality of available material, the experience and knowledge of the examining pathologist. <sup>(7)</sup>

Classification of soft tissue tumour into benign and malignant groups is not meant to imply that malignant soft tissue tumour tend to originates from their benign counterparts. In fact, malignant transformation of benign soft tissue tumour is an extremely rare event, with the exception of the occasional transformation of neurofibroma to malignant schwannoma.

The various tumour types are named according to histological type of predominant cellular element, that is, the resemblance of the tumour to normal tissue or its embryonic counterpart.

Malignant fibrous histiocyoma and liposarcoma are the commonest soft tissue sarcoma in adult, while rhabdomyosarcoma, neuroblastoma and extra skeletal Ewing's sarcoma are the most frequent soft tissue sarcoma in childhood. <sup>(6)</sup>