

European Respiratory Society Annual Congress 2012

Abstract Number: 2985

Publication Number: P2933

Abstract Group: 8.1. Thoracic Surgery

Keyword 1: Mediastinal tumour **Keyword 2:** Neoplastic diseases **Keyword 3:** Thoracic oncology

Title: Mediastinal metastases from non-lymphomatous extra-thoracic tumours. A multicenter series of a rare condition

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Body: Introduction: Most mediastinal metastases are from lung, esophagus or mediastinum itself. Non-lymphomatous extra-thoracic tumours rarely give place to mediastinal metastases. The purpose of this study was to investigate the way this rare condition is managed and its prognosis. Material and Methods: Thoracic surgeons from 7 different centers in Spain and France put together their series to perform a retrospective study of this kind of mediastinal metastases. Results: A total of 16 cases was recorded (11 women and 5 men). Age ranged between 32 and 72 years in women (M=49) and between 31 and 76 in men (M=49). Among women, the primaries were: 4 sarcomas, 3 breast, 2 kidney and 2 ovary. Among men, the primaries were 2 testicular and 1 melanoma, 1 digestive and 1 feochromocytoma. The time between treatment of the primary tumor and the diagnosis of mediastinal metastasis was 16 months in breast origin (0-24), 84 months in sarcomas (12-132) and 19 months in kidney cases (14-92). Other metastases were rare, only pulmonary in 3 cases of sarcoma and one case of retroperitoneal metastasis in a testicular case. The mediastinal metastases were treated through thoracotomy in 11 patients (9 right, 2 left), 2 right videothoroscopies and 3 sternotomies. Survival was of 67 months for the already dead patients and 58 months for the still alive patients. Conclusions: Mediastinal metastases of nonlymphomatous extrathoracic tumors are more frequent among women, normally the mediastinal metastasis is solitaire except in sarcomas, and their prognosis is not as bad as expected.