

DIFFICULT CASES IN SARCOMA

Epithelioid Sarcoma and Alveolar Soft Part Sarcoma

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General Principles

- Very rare sarcomas
- Group of selected subtypes which have:
 - Distinctive clinical behaviour
 - Distinct biologies and/or molecular characteristics
 - Responses to agents targeting these pathways
 - Or a lack of response to conventional cytotoxics

Case 1

24 yo single man

- Computer programmer.
- Living at home with elderly parents
- No Past History of note. No Family History of cancer
- Referred to Peter MacCallum Sarcoma Service from regional hospital, 1-month post complicated resection of a distal thigh soft-tissue mass arising from left thigh.

24 yo man

- Suboptimal (R1) resection, approx. 3cm tumour
- Sarcoma NOS by local pathology service
- Pathology reviewed at Peter Mac
 - High grade sarcoma, morphologically consistent with epithelioid sarcoma or synovial sarcoma. Distal margin+ve
 - Expression of cytokeratin, epithelial membrane antigen, vimentin and CD34. Neg for S100, CD31. FISH -ve for t(X:18)
 - Features consistent with epithelioid sarcoma

24 yo man: epithelioid sarcoma

Next Steps:

- Restaging completed. MRI left thigh, CT-C/A/P
 - No clear evidence of residual tumour
 - No locoregional or distant metastatic disease
- Further management?:

24 yo man: epithelioid sarcoma

- Further management?:
 - Wide-Resection. Limb-sparing vs amputation?
 - Radiotherapy- pre vs post-op?
 - Systemic therapy?

24 yo man: epithelioid sarcoma

- Further management?:
 - Wide-Resection. Limb-sparing vs amputation?
 - Radiotherapy- pre vs post-op?
 - Systemic therapy?
- Went on to receive External beam RTx
- Surgical re-resection with wide margins
 - No residual tumour evident
- Adjuvant chemotherapy not recommended
 - Given histology and lack of clear OS benefit

24 yo man: epithelioid sarcoma

- Routine follow-up
- Nine months later:
 - Painful subcutaneous lesions distal thigh
 - Deep and infiltrative on imaging with MRI
 - Within radiation field
 - At distal end of prior tumour
 - No proximal extension
 - Biopsied
 - Recurrence confirmed
 - Increasing pain++ with ulceration of superficial disease

24 yo man: epithelioid sarcoma

- Further management?:

24 yo man: epithelioid sarcoma

- Further management?:
 - Re-resection not thought possible
 - Above knee amputation performed
 - Remained disease-free for further 3 years
 - Now in 6-monthly follow-up
 - Re-presents with multiple subcutaneous lesions
 - Extending proximally
 - Painful superficial lesions and sacral pain++
 - Clinically, growing very rapidly

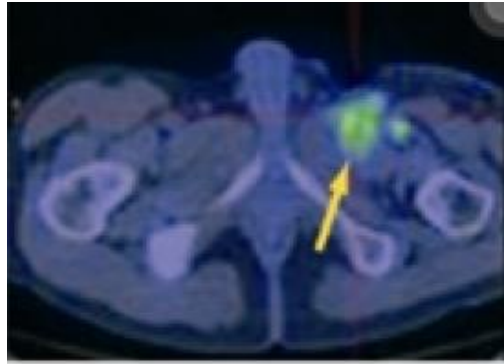
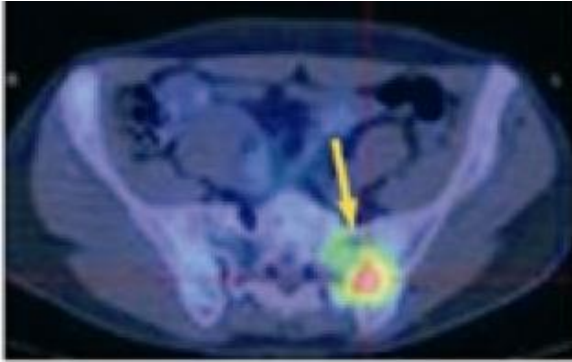
Recurrent epithelioid sarcoma

- Further management?:



Recurrent epithelioid sarcoma

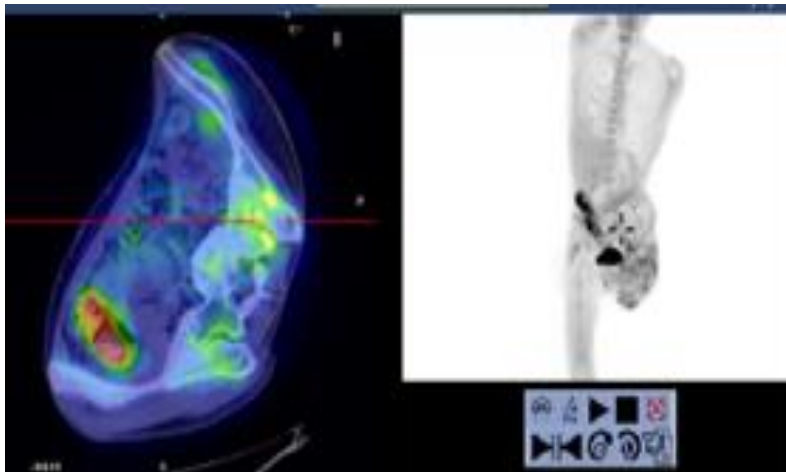
- Restaging: Locoregional disease on PET/CT



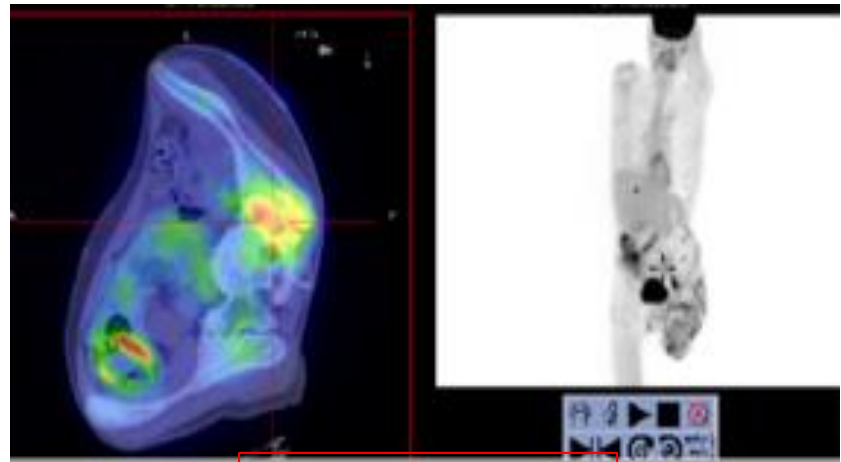
- Further management?
 - Radiotherapy considered,
 - but concerns given in-field recurrence and rapid proximal progression
 - Commenced on chemotherapy with Dox/Ifos

Metastatic epithelioid sarcoma

- Dox/Ifos: initial stabilisation after 2 cycles, followed by further progression at C4



PRE



POST

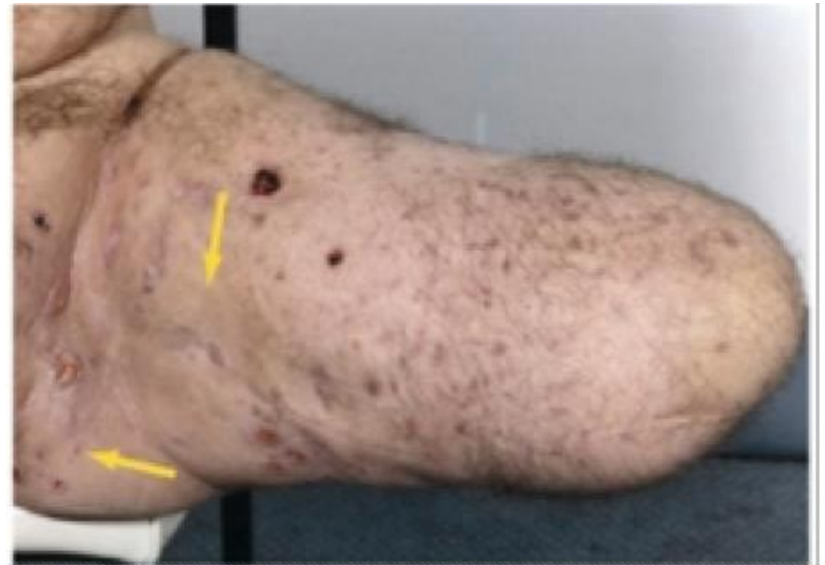
- Enrolled onto a Phase Ib clinical trial with Docetaxel and a novel PDGF inhibitor

Metastatic epithelioid sarcoma

- Enrolled onto a Phase Ib clinical trial with
- Docetaxel and a novel PDGF inhibitor



PRE



POST 2 CYCLES

Metastatic epithelioid sarcoma

- Disease control on and off therapy for additional 9 months
- Progression with proximal abdominal and nodal disease
 - Eventual lung metastases
 - Died from complications of metastatic disease

Metastatic epithelioid sarcoma:

Take home messages

- What should/could have been done differently?
 - Initial surgery
 - Radiotherapy? And re-resection?
 - Follow-up? Imaging
 - Challenges with continued proximal migration of disease
- Use of systemic chemotherapy for met disease
 - Other options?
 - Molecular drivers/molecular testing?
 - Multiple targets implicated including EGFR, cyclin D1, VEGF, mTOR

Metastatic epithelioid sarcoma:

Literature/Data

- No meaningful prospective data. Retrospective:
- 1) Royal Marsden (R Jones et al. Am J Clin Oncol. 2012 Aug),
 - 1990-2009 database
 - Proximal vs Distal
 - 55 patients, 20 treated with chemotherapy (Dox+/-Ifos)
 - Partial responses in 25%, but short-lived
- Lots of anecdotes, and individual patient responses on trials with agents including pazopanib, eribulin, navelbine, trabectedin
- Take home message: explore novel options early, sequential single agents

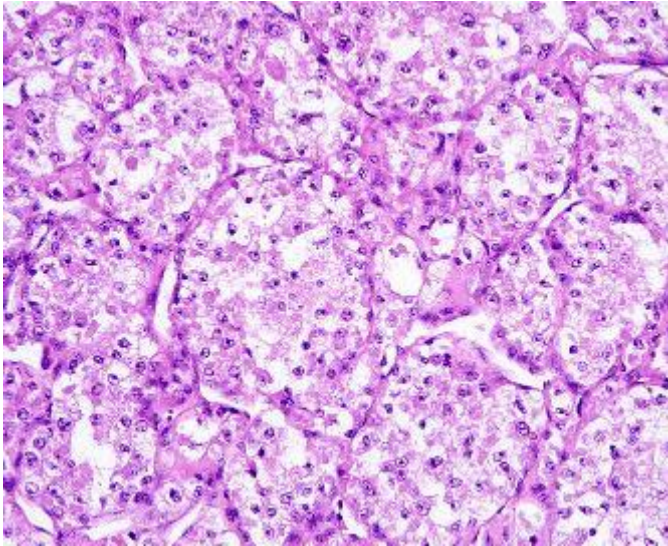
Case 2

27 yo married woman, 2 yo child

- No Past History of note. No Family History of cancer
- Presents with right forearm lesion, present for at least 12 months, slowly growing
- Staging CT scans demonstrate 3 small pulmonary metastases,
 - RLL x 2 and LUL: 10, 9 and 7mm in size
 - FDG avid on PET
- Biopsy of left forearm lesion:

Case 2: 27 yo woman

- Biopsy of left forearm lesion:
- Nests of epithelioid cells separated by fibrovascular septae and vascular channels



- “Pseudo-alveolar pattern”

- Diagnosis of Alveolar Soft Part Sarcoma

Case 2: 27 yo woman

- Resection of forearm lesion
- Options for management of pulmonary mets discussed including
 - Staged resection
 - Watch and wait
 - Staged resection for diagnostic and treatment purposes
 - Confirmed as metastatic disease

Case 2: 27 yo woman

- Over following 3 years
 - 2 further resections for single/oligometastatic disease.
 - All via wedge resections
- Now presents with
 - multiple lung metastases (approx 10 lesions), largest 5mm
 - Bone metastasis with scapulae metastasis
 - Symptomatic
 - Treated with Radiotherapy (palliative)

Case 2: 27 yo woman

- Options for management of systemic disease?
 - Systemic chemotherapy
 - Watch and wait
 - Other options?

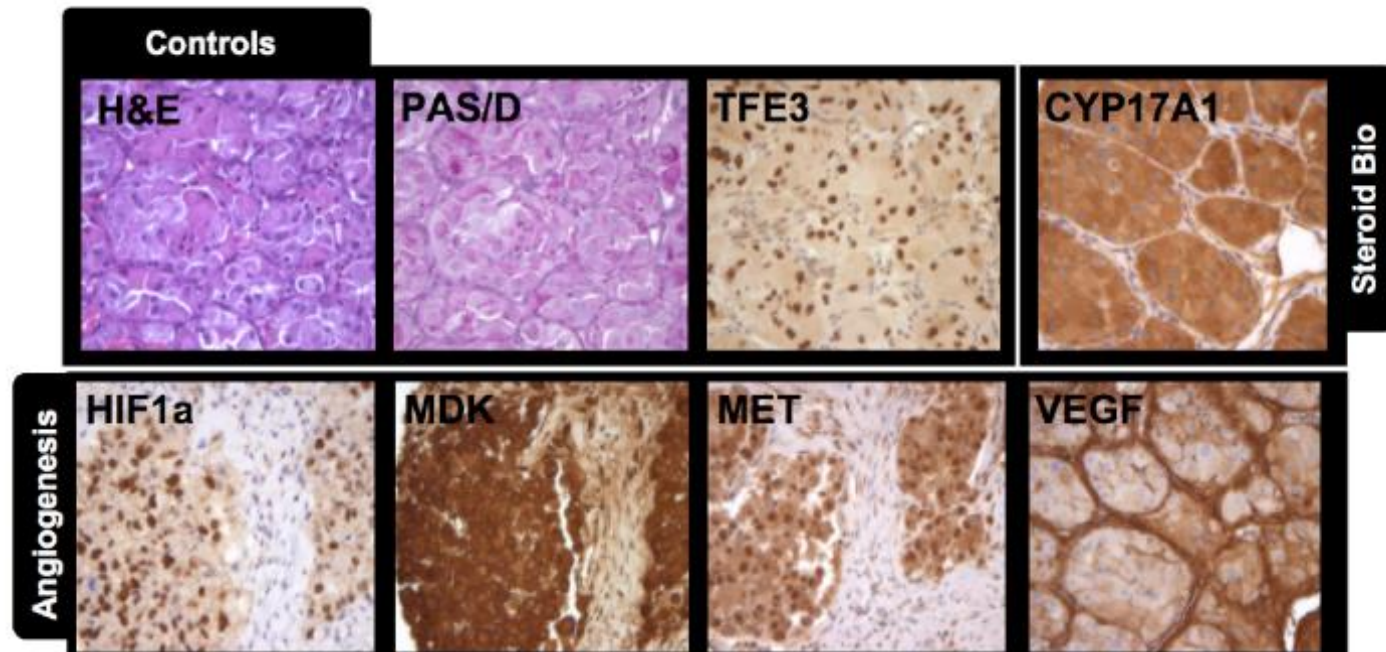
Alveolar Soft Part Sarcoma

- Incidence: approx 0.5-1/100,000
- Adolescents/Young adults
 - Female>male
 - Natural history variable,
 - High metastatic rate,
 - Often to atypical sites (brain, bone, soft tissue)
 - But metastases often indolent in their behavior,
 - Multiple surgical resections may be appropriate.
 - Can grow to a certain size, and then remain indolent.
 - Therefore Patient's Natural History very important

Alveolar Soft Part Sarcoma

- Median survival with metastatic disease approx 36 months cf metastatic STS
- Characterised by an unbalanced translocation t(X;17)(p11:p25) which results in the fusion of the ASPL and TFE3 genes.
- Resulting in unregulated transcription of TFE3 controlled genes.
- Strong expression of angiogenic factors

Expression in ASPS



VEGF inhibition in ASPS: Initial “anecdotes”

Sunitinib: 4 evaluable patients on compassionate use protocol

- 2 Partial Responses, 1 SD, 1 PD

(Stacchiotti et al. (2009) *Clinical Cancer Research*)

Cediranib: 7 patients on two Phase I studies

- 4 Partial Responses, 2 Minor Responses, 1SD

CASPS: A phase II trial of Cediranib in the treatment of patients with ASPS

- To confirm the ability of cediranib to halt disease progression in patients with metastatic ASPS at 24 weeks after randomisation & to produce objective response according to RECIST criteria.
- Randomised 2:1 to receive cediranib or placebo;
 - At 24 weeks, Rx will be unblinded after which all pts on placebo will be given cediranib.
- Primary endpoint week 24 percentage change in the sum of target marker lesions from randomisation.
- Led by Ian Judson (ICR): global collaboration including 2 sites in Australia

Conclusions

- Increasing number of very rare sarcoma subtypes with distinct biology, clinical behaviour
- Diagnostic accuracy critically important
- Clinical guidance critically important
- Given the impact on that patient
- International sarcoma network leading the way for other rare cancers/rare subtypes
 - Help provide diagnostic and clinical guidance
 - Conduct appropriate clinical trials