Treatment of tenosynovial giant-cell tumour types

It was with great interest that we read the international retrospective research by Monique Mastboom and colleagues[1] in *The Lancet Oncology*, in which surgical outcomes and recurrence risk factors of patients with diffuse-type tenosynovial giant-cell tumours (D-GCTS) were strictly assessed. Some potential risk factors, such as admission status (therapy naive *vs* recurrent disease), sex, age, tumour localisation, bone involvement, surgical technique, and tumour size were included in this study, and the authors concluded that admission status was an independent factor associated with recurrence.

According to the growth pattern, tenosynovial giant-cell tumours can be divided into three types: localised-type tenosynovial giant cell tumour, D-GCTS, and pigmented villonodular synovitis (PVNS). Both D-GCTS and PVNS are specific to large joints, but PVNS is more likely to involve the intra-articular cavity, whereas D-GCTS mainly affects extra-articular soft tissue. Histopathologically, D-GCTS present more aggressively than PVNS.

The data from WHO showed that the recurrence frequency of D-GCTS was 33–50%, which was higher than that of PVNS (18–46%).[2,3] Additionally, the surgical strategies for D-GCTS are different from those for PVNS.

Thus, the affected anatomic area of D-GCTS and PVNS is different, which should be taken into consideration when surgical methods and recurrence risk factors are assessed.

We declare no competing interests.

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2 Fletcher CD, Unni KK, Mertens F, et al. World Health Organization classification of tumours. Pathology and genetics of tumors of soft tissue and bone. Lyon: IARC Press, 2002: 120–25.

3 de St Aubain S, van de Rijn M. Tenosynovial giant cell tumour, diffuse type. In: Fletcher CDM BJ, Hogendoorn PCW, Mertens F, eds. WHO classification of tumours of soft tissue and bone, 4th edn. Geneva: World Health Organization, 2013: 102–03.