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Results of surgical treatment of Ewing's sarcoma of the pelvis.

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Aim of this study was to report our single-center experience with surgical resection of pelvic Ewing's sarcoma within a multimodality treatment approach.

Out of the Vienna Bone and Soft Tissue Tumor Registry we have identified 48 patients (25 females and 23 males) with a Ewing's sarcoma of the pelvic or sacral region treated between 1973 and 2012. Mean age at time of surgery was 19 years (median, 17; range 2-51). All but 3 sacral tumors and 3 gluteal soft tissue lesions occurred in the bony pelvic ring. After resection, surgery comprised additional reconstruction by endoprotheses in 15 patients and by biological means in 13 patients. Adjuvant treatment included chemotherapy in 46 patients, radiation in 32 and 31 patients received both. Overall mean follow-up was 54 months (median, 37; range 1-245).

Surgical complications occurred in 19 patients including infection in 7, mechanical disorders in 5, neurological deficits in 4 and thrombo-embolism in 3, one of them ended lethal. Three patients had to undergo secondary hemipelvectomy. Local tumor recurrence appeared in five patients, but all of them were observed before 1985. Nine patients presented with primary metastatic disease, 17 patients developed metastases throughout follow-up. Altogether, 26 patients died of disease, resulting in a median overall survival of 45 months. The respective 5-year overall survival was 42%.

The surgical treatment of pelvic Ewing's sarcoma remains challenging with a relatively high complication rate and moderate overall outcome, local tumor control rates are highly satisfying given an aggressive surgical approach.

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