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#### Rhabdomyosarcoma in Infants Less than One Year of Age: A Report from the Children's Oncology Group

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#### Abstract

**Background**—Rhabdomyosarcoma (RMS), the most common soft-tissue sarcoma in children, occurs less commonly in infants. Historically, poorer outcomes have been seen for infants diagnosed with RMS than for older children.

**Methods**—We analyzed the characteristics, treatment administered, outcomes, and patterns of failure for infants < 1 year of age with non-metastatic RMS who were treated with multimodal therapy on Intergroup Rhabdomyosarcoma Study (IRS) protocols IRS-IV, D9602, and D9803.

**Results**—Seventy-six infants with non-metastatic RMS were treated on the 3 protocols from 1991 to 2005. Median age was 7.4 months (range 0.1–12 months). Tumor histology included embryonal (57%), alveolar (21%), and undifferentiated sarcoma/other (22%). Parameningeal primary site was less common in this infant cohort (3%) than for all patients treated on IRS-IV (25%). Estimated 5-year failure-free survival and overall survival (95% confidence intervals) are 57% (44%, 67%) and 76% (65%, 85%) for infants compared to 81% (79%, 83%) and 87% (85%, 89%) for ages 1–9 years. Twenty-three of 32 infants with treatment failure had local recurrence/ progression with (n=3) or without (n=20) distant failure. The overall local failure rate was 30%. Median time to treatment failure was 13 months. FFS was worse for infants with Group III tumors and for those who received less than protocol recommended radiation therapy.

**Conclusions**—Infants with RMS appear to have worse outcomes than older patients, in part due to high rates of local failure. Concerns regarding morbidity in infants and reluctance to perform aggressive local control measures may lead to higher rates of local failure.

#### Keywords

pediatric; sarcoma; infant; radiotherapy; rhabdomyosarcoma

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#### Introduction

Rhabdomyosarcoma (RMS) is a malignancy of mesenchymal cell origin that primarily occurs in children and young adults. While the majority of cases of RMS are diagnosed in children less than 6 years of age,<sup>1</sup> RMS is uncommon in infants. Previous studies have demonstrated that age is a prognostic factor in RMS with poorer outcomes seen in infants than in older children.<sup>2–4</sup> Since there is no clear evidence that the biology of RMS is different in infants, the reason for worse outcome is unclear. A potential explanation for inferior outcome for infants could be less aggressive local therapy. Concerns regarding the morbidity and long-term adverse effects of surgery or radiation therapy (RT) may lead treating physicians and parents to omit or reduce local therapy for infants. Alternatively, infants may tolerate intensive systemic therapy less well. Higher therapy-related mortality rates have been seen in infants with Wilms tumor, and the risk of hepatopathy is higher in younger children with RMS.<sup>5, 6</sup> Therefore, reduced doses of chemotherapy are often administered.

The Intergroup Rhabdomyosarcoma Study Group (IRSG) has conducted consecutive multiinstitutional clinical trials to improve outcome for children with RMS.<sup>7–12</sup> We describe the characteristics, outcome, prognostic factors, and patterns of failure for infants with nonmetastatic RMS treated on the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Intergroup Rhabdomyosarcoma Studies (IRS). We specifically evaluated adherence to protocol recommended RT as a prognostic factor for local failure and failure-free survival (FFS).

#### **Patients and Methods**

#### Study Population

The study population consists of infants with non-metastatic RMS who were treated on intergroup RMS studies, IRS-IV<sup>11</sup> and IRS-V<sup>7, 12</sup>. IRS-V was conducted through the Children's Oncology Group (COG) as studies D9803 for "intermediate risk" RMS and D9602 for "low risk" RMS. Informed consent was obtained from the parents/guardians of all infants included in this analysis at the original time of enrollment on one of the IRS studies.

All patients in this analysis were < 1 year of age at the time of diagnosis. The IRS studies assigned a presurgical Stage based on tumor site, size, clinical lymph node involvement, and presence or absence of metastases.<sup>13</sup> A post-surgical "Group" was also assigned to all tumors based on IRS classification.<sup>9</sup> Group I includes localized tumors that are completely excised with no microscopic residual disease. Group II includes grossly resected tumors with microscopic residual disease and/or resected regional disease with involved lymph nodes. Group III consists of those patients with gross residual disease after resection or biopsy only. Group IV consists of patients with metastatic disease.

#### Treatment

Patients on all 3 protocols received multimodal therapy including chemotherapy with or without surgery and/or radiation therapy as assigned by protocol according to IRS Stage and Group. Outcome for patients treated on IRS-IV was similar to those treated on IRS-V,<sup>7</sup>, <sup>11</sup> allowing for pooled analysis of data from these studies. Treatment by study is summarized below.

IRS-IV enrolled patients from 1991 to 1997.<sup>11</sup> Patients without metastatic disease were randomized to receive vincristine and dactinomycin with cyclophosphamide (VAC), ifosfamide (VAI), or etoposide (VIE). Patients with Group III tumors were randomized to

receive either conventional RT (50.4 Gy in 28 1.8 Gy fractions) or hyperfractionated RT (59.4 Gy in 54 1.1 Gy fractions twice daily). The COG study D9803 enrolled patients with "intermediate risk" RMS from 1999 to 2005.<sup>7</sup> Eligible patients included those with Stage 1– 3/Group I-III alveolar RMS and undifferentiated sarcoma, those with Stage 2–3/Group III embryonal RMS, and patients < 10 years of age with Stage 4/Group IV embryonal RMS. Three infants with Stage 4/Group IV embryonal RMS. Three infants were randomized to receive either VAC chemotherapy or VAC alternating with vincristine, topotecan, and cyclophosphamide (VTC). The D9602 study enrolled patients with "low risk" RMS (Stage 1–3/Groups I–II with embryonal or botryoid histology) from 1997 to 2004.<sup>12</sup> Patients were treated with either VAC or VA chemotherapy with or without RT based on pre-treatment Stage and Group.

Each protocol recommended that infants receive 50% prescribed chemotherapy doses in the initial phase of chemotherapy with escalation to 75% and then 100% doses in subsequent phases if no significant toxicity occurred. Chemotherapy doses were calculated by weight (kilogram) or by body surface area (meter squared) depending on the protocol and chemotherapeutic agent.

RT was assigned for all patients with Group II or Group III tumors and for patients with Group I alveolar histology. Patients with Group III tumors, Group II tumors, and Group I alveolar/undifferentiated histology received RT at doses of 50.4 or 59.4 Gy 41.4 Gy, and 36 Gy, respectively.

#### Study Design

We analyzed data regarding clinical features for infants < 1 year of age in comparison to older cohorts of patients treated on the same studies. We also assessed chemotherapy and radiation therapy delivered and operative procedures performed. Initial and second look operations as well as outcome in regards to loss of cosmesis, loss of organ function, and resection of vital structures were evaluated. "Loss of cosmesis" was defined as any resection that resulted in a noticeable change in appearance, including resection of face/head/neck. "Loss of function" was defined as any resection resulting in a permanent loss of a functional organ (e.g. bladder). "Resection of vital structures" was defined as removal of at least some portion of a critical structure (e.g. ureter, kidney, colon) that was associated with morbidity with or without "loss of function". Adherence to protocol-specified RT was analyzed and the proportion of patients who received less than prescribed radiation was determined. RT was considered to not be "as specified by protocol" if (1) RT was withheld despite protocol guidelines specifying that the patient should receive RT based on IRS Stage and Group, (2) there was a major deviation from protocol specified dose and/or target volumes. Lack of adherence to assigned fractionation (conventional or hyperfractionated) was not considered a major deviation. In regards to chemotherapy, mean percentage of delivered to calculated dose was determined for each agent in each "phase" of treatment. FFS and overall survival (OS) were determined for infants and compared to older age groups treated on the same studies. FFS was assessed and compared by Group and by whether or not protocol specified RT was received. Sites of failure and time to failure were determined.

#### **Statistical Analysis**

Patient characteristics were compared across cohorts using Fisher's Exact test. FFS and OS were estimated using Kaplan-Meier life table analysis<sup>14</sup> and were compared between age cohorts, by Group, and by radiation received using the log-rank test.<sup>15</sup>

#### Results

#### **Patient and Disease Characteristics**

Among the 1843 patients with non-metastatic RMS enrolled on IRS-IV, D9602, and D9803, 76 (4%) were < 1 year of age at the time of diagnosis (IRS-IV:n=41; D9602:n=20; D9803:n=15). Characteristics of the study population compared to patients 1 to 9 years and  $\geq$  10 years with non-metastatic RMS are shown in Table 1. Thirty-one (41%) infants were female. The median age at diagnosis was 7.4 months (range 0.1 to 12 months). Thirteen patients (17%) were < 3 months of age and 4 patients (5%) were < 1 month at the time of diagnosis.

Forty-three infants (57%) had tumors with embryonal histology and 16 (21%) had alveolar histology. The remaining 17 patients (22%) had "other" histology, which includes undifferentiated sarcoma and ectomesenchymoma. Infants had a higher proportion of undifferentiated sarcoma than older patients. The distribution of primary tumor sites differed for infants compared to older patients (p<0.0001). Infants had a lower incidence of parameningeal tumors (4%) and a higher proportion of tumors in the trunk/abdomen (includes chest wall, paraspinous region, and retroperitoneum).

Distribution of IRS Stage, tumor size, nodal status, and T-stage were statistically different across the 3 age categories. Similar to the older age groups, more than half of infants had Group III tumors after initial operative procedure.

#### **Treatment Outcome**

Thirty-two of 76 infants experienced treatment failure and 20 died. Eighteen patients died from progressive disease and 2 died from treatment related toxicity. Outcome for patients with non-metastatic RMS treated on IRS-IV, D9602, and D9803 differed by age at diagnosis (Figure 1). The estimated 5-year FFS (95% confidence intervals (CI)) for infants is 57% (44%,67%) compared to 81% (79%,93%) for age 1–9 years, and 68% (63%,72%) for age  $\geq$  10 years (p-value < 0.001). Five-year OS for age < 1 year, age 1–9 years, and age  $\geq$  10 years are 76% (65%,85%), 87% (85%, 89%), and 75% (71%,79%), respectively (p-value < 0.001).

Outcome was similar for infants < 3 months of age compared to older infants. Five failures were observed among 13 infants younger than 3 months. Outcome varied by tumor histology, but not other clinical parameters such as tumor site, tumor size, T-stage, and nodal status (Table 2). The subset of infants with alveolar histology had a high risk of failure with an estimated 5-year FFS (95% CI) of 22% (5%, 45%) and 5-year OS of 65% (35%, 85%). Infants in this study with undifferentiated sarcoma had outcomes similar to those with embryonal RMS.

#### **Outcome by IRS Group**

Infants with Group III tumors had a significantly higher probability of poor outcome than those with Groups I or II tumors (Figure 2). Estimated 5-year FFS (95% CI) for infants with Group III tumors is 39% (24%, 53%) compared to 69% (37%, 87%) for Group II and 89% (62%, 97%) for Group I (p-value = 0.0022). Estimated 5-year OS (95% CI) are 60% (44%, 74%), 92% (57%, 99%), and 100% for patients with Group III, Group II, and Group I tumors, respectively (p-value = 0012).

#### **Treatment Received**

**Surgery**—Thirty-four of 58 infants (59%) with Group II or Group III tumors underwent second look operations (SLO) after the initiation of protocol therapy: re-biopsy in 11

patients, incomplete excision in 9 patients, and complete excision (defined as resection with negative margins) in 14 patients. Of the 14 infants who had second complete excisions, 6 patients also received RT. Five of 14 patients with second complete excisions, including 2 who also received RT, experienced treatment failure (3 local, 1 distant, and 1 death from toxicity).

Operative therapy resulted in resection of vital structures in 18 (24%) of the 76 infants with resulting loss of organ function in 17 (22%). An additional 5 patients (8%) had loss of cosmesis. Resection of vital structures and loss of organ function occurred more frequently in patients with complete resection. However, 6 of 36 patients who never had complete excisions had operations that resulted in resection of vital structures and loss of function.

**Radiation Therapy**—Thirty-three infants (43%) received RT (3 with Group I, 10 with Group II, and 20 with Group III tumors). RT was often withheld by local investigators or because of parent refusal. As such, deviations from protocol specified RT were also analyzed for 72 infants for whom complete data was available. Data regarding target volume and dose were not available for 4 patients. Thirty (42%) of 72 infants had major deviations from protocol-specified radiation dose or volume. This group of 30 infants includes 20 patients with Group II, Group III, or Group I alveolar tumors who had radiation withheld as well as 10 patients (2 Group II and 8 Group III) who received lower than specified doses or target volumes. The percentages of patients within each Group who received RT as assigned by protocol are shown in Table 3. Estimated 5-year FFS (95% CI) and 5-year OS for infants who did not receive protocol-assigned RT are 46% (27%, 63%) and 64% (43%, 79%) compared to 70% (53%, 82%) and 85% (70%, 93%) for those whose RT plan followed protocol guidelines (p-values = 0.074 for FFS and 0.032 for OS).

Twenty-three infants (54%) with Group III tumors did not receive any RT. Twenty-four of 40 infants (60%) with Group III tumors for whom sufficient information was available did not receive RT as specified by protocol. Estimated 5-year FFS (95% CI) with or without RT for infants with Group III tumors are 47% (24%, 67%) and 32% (14%, 51%), respectively (p-value = 0.17) (Figure 3A). Estimated 5-year OS (95% CI) for Group III patients is 63% (37%, 80%) with RT and 58% (35%, 76%) without (p-value = 0.49) (Figure 3B).

**Chemotherapy Doses Administered**—Table 4 shows the mean percentage of prescribed doses administered (with 100% defined as the prescribed dose for children over 1 year of age) by phase of treatment for alkyating agents (cyclophosphamide or ifosfamide), vincristine and dactinomycin. Doses were escalated successfully for the majority of infants. In the final phase of therapy, infants on average received 83% of prescribed doses of alkylating agents and vincristine, and 89% of prescribed dose of dactinomycin. Fifteen of 43 patients (35%) received at least 90% of prescribed alkylator dose in the final phase.

**Patterns of Failure**—Among the 32 patients with initial treatment failure, 20 had local/ regional recurrence or progression, 6 developed distant metastases, 3 had local and metastatic progression, and 2 died from toxicity (Table 5). Site of recurrence/progression was not reported for 1 patient. The mean and median times to failure are 17 months and 13 months, respectively (range: 1 to 72 months). Fifteen patients experienced treatment failure within one year of diagnosis, and 8 treatment failures occurred within 6 months.

The overall incidence of local failure (defined as any local failure with or without failure at other sites) in this infant cohort was 30% compared to 13% for all patients treated on IRS-IV, D9602, and D9803. Eighteen of 23 patients with local failure had Group III tumors. The rate of local failure for infants with Group III tumors was 42% compared to 17% for all Group III patients on IRS-IV, D9602, and D9803. Among the 18 infants with Group III

tumors and local failure, 6 had received RT, 1 patient had a delayed complete resection without RT, and 11 patients had received no local therapy.

#### Discussion

Management of infants with RMS remains a challenge, particularly regarding local therapy. Previous studies have demonstrated that, after adjusting for other features, age < 1 year at diagnosis remains a significant adverse prognostic factor.<sup>3, 11</sup> Outcome for our cohort of infants is similar to what was demonstrated by Joshi et al for infants treated on IRS-IV (5-year FFS 53%) and by Ferrari et al for infants treated in the Italian Cooperative Group (5-year FFS 42%).<sup>2, 3</sup> While there has been a significant improvement in FFS for children with RMS over sequential IRS studies, the same improvement in outcome has not been seen for infants.<sup>7–12</sup>

The reason for poorer outcomes for infants remains unclear. In adolescents, an increased risk of failure can be explained by a higher frequency of alveolar histology and tumors in unfavorable sites. Conversely, our cohort of infants did not have a higher incidence of these known adverse prognostic factors. Previous analysis of IRS-III and IRS-IV demonstrated that outcomes were worse for infants compared to older patients within each histologic subtype.<sup>16</sup> Other factors currently used in risk stratification, including IRS Stage and Group, were similar in infants compared to older patients in our study.

As there is no clear evidence of different biology of RMS in infants, one must consider less aggressive treatment as a possible reason for poorer outcome. While the incidence of Group III tumors was similar to older children, the outcome for these infants was significantly worse, with a 5-year FFS of 39%. In comparison, 3-year FFS for all patients with Group III tumors treated on IRS-IV was 73%.<sup>11</sup> Ragab et al also found inferior survival for infants with Group III tumors (3-year OS 41%) treated on IRS-I and IRS-II, but no difference in survival for other Groups compared to older children.<sup>17</sup> As in our study, Ragab et al found a higher local recurrence rate for infants with Group III RMS (29%) than for older patients treated on the same studies (11%). The high incidence of local failure in our infants as well as in the Ragab cohort suggests the possibility of less aggressive local control. In our cohort, more than half of infants with Group III tumors had major deviations from protocolspecified RT, and the majority of infants with Group III tumors and local failure had received no radiation at all. This finding is consistent with the study by Ferarri et al, where RT was withheld in 54% of infants with RMS who met protocol guidelines to receive radiation.<sup>2</sup> Accordingly, a high rate of local failure was seen in their infant cohort, with 85% of treatment failures being local.<sup>2</sup>

There is clearly a dilemma in administering local therapy to infants. There are valid concerns regarding the long-term morbidity of RT in infants and young children.<sup>18</sup> Depending on the location and size of tumor, local control with an operative procedure can be equally problematic. However, our data suggest that without adequate local control, the risk of local failure is very high. In an analysis of patients with Group II RMS, Million et al found a similar high rate of local recurrence associated with deviations from protocol guidelines.<sup>19</sup> However, reasonable local control rates can be achieved with appropriate radiation therapy, even in very young children.<sup>20</sup> Finding the balance between long-term effects, quality of life, and the potential for cure is difficult. Therefore, treatment decisions often need to be individualized for each particular case. The fact that we did not see worse OS for infants with Group III RMS for whom RT was withheld suggests that many of these patients may be salvaged after local recurrence. Current COG guidelines for local therapy in children < 24 months allow for individualization of treatment to permit careful balancing of long-term morbidity against the increased risk of local failure and death.

There is a paucity of pharmacokinetic data in infants to help guide dosing of chemotherapeutic agents.<sup>21</sup> Due to higher mortality in infants on IRS-I with full dose chemotherapy, initial chemotherapy in subsequent studies has started at 50% of the calculated doses for older children with dose-escalation as tolerated.<sup>9</sup> In our infant cohort, chemotherapy was relatively well tolerated and doses were successfully escalated for most patients. The rate of death from toxicity was only 3%. It is unclear if the lower intensity of initial chemotherapy contributed to the inferior outcome for infants in our study. However, with improvements in supportive care and monitoring, this degree of chemotherapy dose reduction for infants may no longer be necessary. Increasing chemotherapy intensity could potentially contribute to successful prevention of local failure.<sup>22</sup> Data from a current COG study evaluating the pharmacokinetics and pharmacogenetics of vincristine and dactinomycin in children (including infants) will help guide dosing of these agents in future trials.<sup>23</sup>

In summary, our results corroborate previous studies in infants with RMS and suggest that local control is critical to successful treatment. While achieving local control in infants with solid tumors remains difficult, advancement of surgical techniques and improved methods for delivering highly conformal RT are necessary to overcome this challenge. In addition, the development of novel systemic agents and incorporation of these agents into treatment plans should help to improve outcome for infants with RMS.

#### Acknowledgments

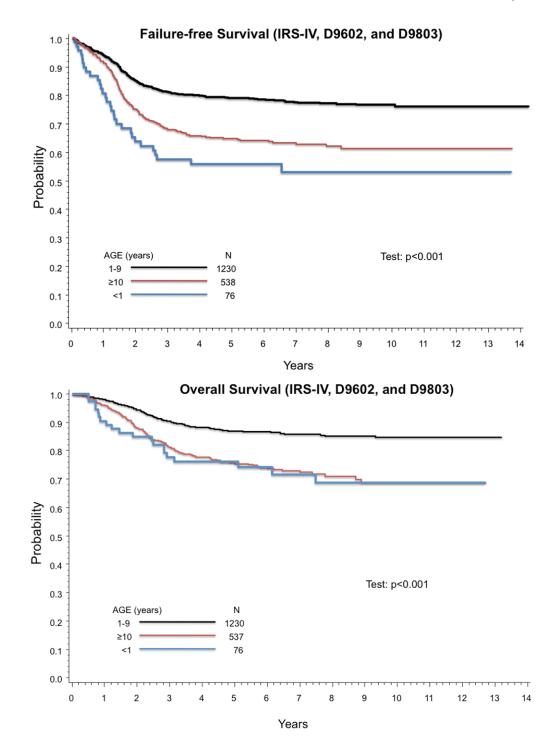
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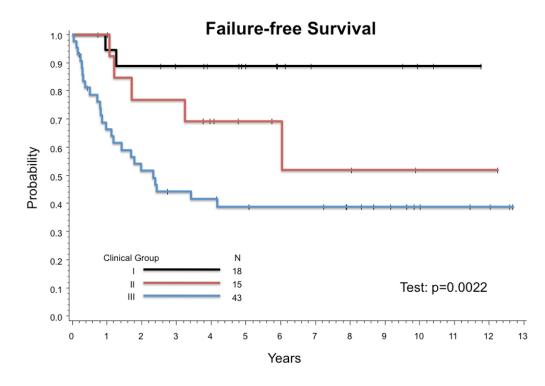
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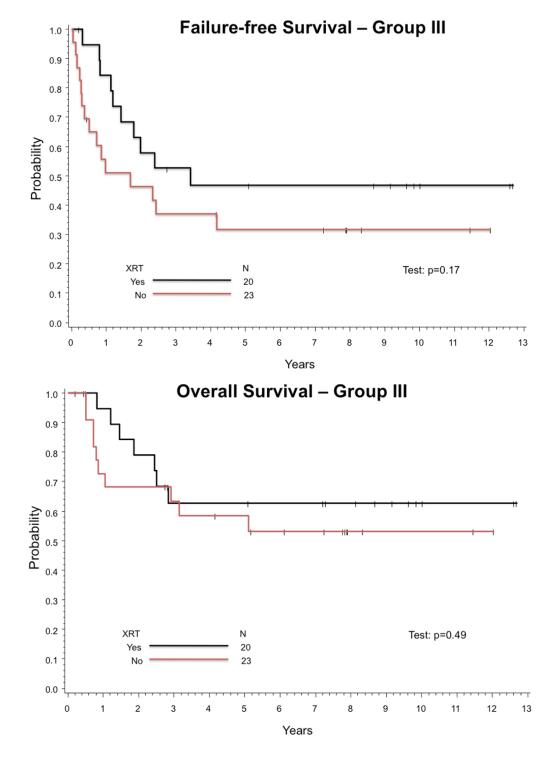
#### Figure 1.

Age at diagnosis is prognostic of outcome in RMS. Infants have poorer FFS than older patients with RMS. (A) Estimated 5-year FFS (95% CI) by age group are 57% (44%,67%) for age < 1 year, 81% (79%,93%) for age 1–9 years, and 68% (63%,72%) for age  $\geq$  10 years (p-value < 0.001). (B) Estimated 5-year OS (95% CI) are 76% (65%,85%) for age < 1 year, 87% (85%, 89%) for age 1–9 years, and 75% (71%–79%) for age  $\geq$  10 years (p-value < 0.001).



#### Figure 2.

Failure-Free Survival by IRS Group. Estimated 5-year FFS (95% CI) by IRS Group are 89% (62%,97%) for Group I, 69% (37%, 87%) for Group II, and 39% (24%,53%) for Group III (p-value = 0.0022).



#### Figure 3.

Outcome for infants Group III tumors was compared between those who received any RT and those who received no RT. (A) Estimated 5-year FFS are 47% (24%,67%) with RT and 32% (14%,51%) without (p-value = 0.17). (B) Estimated 5-year OS are 63% (37%,80%) with RT and 58% (35%,76%) without (p-value = 0.49).

## Table 1

# **Patient Characteristics**

Comparison of characteristics by age for patients with non-metastatic RMS treated on IRS-IV, D9602, and D9803

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| risitie         N $%$ N $1$ $45$ $59$ $770$ $7$ $31$ $41$ $460$ $7$ $31$ $41$ $460$ $7$ $31$ $41$ $460$ $7$ $17$ $22$ $73$ $17$ $22$ $73$ $17$ $17$ $22$ $73$ $12$ $17$ $22$ $73$ $12$ $17$ $22$ $73$ $12$ $17$ $22$ $73$ $12$ $17$ $22$ $12$ $12$ $12$ $17$ $22$ $12$ $12$ $16$ $12$ $12$ $n$ -B/P $12$ $16$ $121$ $n$ -B/P $12$ $16$ $121$ $n$ -B/P $23$ $24$ $229$ $n$ -B/P $23$ $24$ $229$ $n$ -B/P $23$ $24$ $229$ <   |                       | < 1 year | < 1 year (N = 76) | 1 – 9 years (N | N = 1230) | ≥10 years (N = 537) | (N = 537) | -       |
|---|-----------------------|----------|-------------------|----------------|-----------|---------------------|-----------|---------|
| all $45$ $59$ $770$ $31$ $41$ $460$ $31$ $41$ $460$ $31$ $43$ $57$ $882$ her $17$ $22$ $73$ mor Site $17$ $22$ $73$ mor Site $3$ $4$ $291$ ingeal $3$ $4$ $291$ Neck $13$ $17$ $98$ $y$ $12$ $16$ $127$ bdomen $16$ $21$ $132$ $y$ $12$ $16$ $141$ $B/P$ $12$ $16$ $127$ $y$ $12$ $16$ $211$ $B/P$ $12$ $166$ $224$ $B/P$ $23$ $33$ $502$ $19$ $25$ $33$ $269$ $g$ $23$ $33$ $57$ $g$ $24$ $23$ $469$ $g$ $37$ $469$ $57$ $g$ $57$ $57$   | <b>Characteristic</b> | Z        | %                 | Z              | %         | Z                   | %         | p-value |
| al     45     59     770       al     31     41     460       31     43     57     882       her     17     21     275       her     17     22     73       mor Site     3     4     291       ingeal     3     4     291       singeal     3     17     98       y     12     16     127       bdomen     16     21     132       specified     4     5     242       nspecified     4     5     242       a     23     16     242       specified     4     5     24       a     23     33     502       a     23     33     502       a     24     5     24       bdomen     16     25     24       a     23     33     502       a     24     5     24       bdomen     16     25     24       a     23     37     469       a     24     5     24       b     25     26     24       a     25     24       a     45 <t< td=""><td>Sex</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></t<>   | Sex                   |          |                   |                |           |                     |           |         |
| all $31$ $41$ $460$ all $43$ $57$ $882$ her $17$ $221$ $275$ her $17$ $22$ $73$ nmor Site $3$ $4$ $291$ ingeal $3$ $4$ $5$ $157$ Neck $13$ $17$ $98$ y $12$ $16$ $127$ bdomen $16$ $211$ $132$ bdomen $16$ $211$ $132$ bdomen $16$ $211$ $132$ bf $12$ $16$ $127$ bdomen $16$ $211$ $132$ $B/P$ $12$ $16$ $127$ $B/P$ $12$ $16$ $223$ $19$ $23$ $37$ $469$ $19$ $23$ $37$ $469$ $19$ $23$ $37$ $469$ $19$ $23$ $37$ $469$ $19$ $24$ $237$ $469$ <t< td=""><td>Male</td><td>45</td><td>59</td><td>770</td><td>63</td><td>341</td><td>64</td><td></td></t<>   | Male                  | 45       | 59                | 770            | 63        | 341                 | 64        |         |
| nal     43     57     882       her     16     21     275       her     17     22     73       mor Site     3     4     291       ingeal     3     4     291       work     13     17     98       y     12     16     127       bdomen     16     21     132       B/P     12     16     141       B/P     12     16     242       specified     4     5     242       lg     23     33     502       lg     23     33     502       lg     24     5     24       lg     23     33     502       lg     23     33     502       lg     24     5     24       lg     23     33     502       lg     23     33     502       lg     24     5     244       lg     23     33     502       lg     23     33     502       lg     24     5     244       lg     24     5     244       lg     23     57     749       e     45   | Female                | 31       | 41                | 460            | 37        | 196                 | 36        | 0.76    |
| al 43 57 882<br>er 17 22 73<br>nor Site 17 22 73<br>nor Site 3 4 291<br>nor Site 3 4 291<br>keck 13 17 98<br>teck 14 12 16<br>teck 14 16 16 | Histology             |          |                   | _              |           |                     |           |         |
| 16       21       275         er       17       22       73         nor Site       3       4       291         nor Site       3       4       5       157         ngeal       3       4       5       157         eck       13       17       98 $4$ 5       16       127         domen       16       21       132 $12$ 16       21       132 $8/P$ 12       16       141 $3/P$ 12       16       242 $8/P$ 23       33       502 $19$ 25       26       204 $15$ 20       204       204 $45$ 57       771       27 $45$ 57       77       77 $45$ 59       698       59 $57$ $4$  | Embryonal             | 43       | 57                | 882            | 72        | 271                 | 50        |         |
| er     17     22     73       mor Site $3$ $4$ $291$ ngeal $3$ $4$ $291$ head $13$ $17$ $98$ ieck $13$ $17$ $98$ ieck $13$ $17$ $98$ domen $16$ $21$ $127$ domen $16$ $21$ $132$ $3/P$ $12$ $16$ $121$ $3/P$ $12$ $16$ $242$ $29$ $33$ $502$ $244$ $19$ $25$ $253$ $269$ $15$ $20$ $204$ $15$ $20$ $204$ $45$ $57$ $771$ $45$ $57$ $214$ $45$ $57$ $214$ $45$ $57$ $217$ $45$ $57$ <  | Alveolar              | 16       | 21                | 275            | 22        | 202                 | 38        |         |
| nor Site $3$ $4$ $5$ $157$ ngeal $3$ $4$ $5$ $157$ teck $13$ $17$ $98$ teck $13$ $17$ $98$ domen $16$ $21$ $127$ $domen$ $16$ $21$ $132$ $3/P$ $12$ $16$ $242$ $3/P$ $12$ $16$ $244$ $29$ $33$ $502$ $24$ $19$ $25$ $259$ $269$ $19$ $25$ $20$ $204$ $43$ $57$ $711$ $771$ $45$ $59$ $698$ $502$ $21$ $57$ $71$ $575$ $45$ $57$ $59$ $698$  | UDS/Other             | 17       | 22                | 73             | 9         | 64                  | 12        | <0.0001 |
| ngeal     3     4     291       leck     13     17     98       leck     13     17     98       domen     16     21     127       domen     16     21     132 $12$ 16     21     132 $8/P$ 12     16     141 $8/P$ 12     16     242 $19$ 25     239     469 $15$ 20     234     256 $15$ 20     204     204 $43$ 57     771     255 $45$ 59     698  | Primary Tumor Site    |          | _                 | _              | _         | _                   | _         |         |
| 4       5       157         teck       13       17       98 $13$ 17       98         domen       16       127 $12$ 16       127 $3/P$ 12       16 $3/P$ 12       16 $3/P$ 12       16 $3/P$ 12       16 $12$ 16       242 $3/P$ 12       16 $29$ 38       502 $19$ 25       24 $29$ 38       502 $19$ 25       259 $19$ 25       20 $15$ 20       204 $43$ 57       771 $45$ 59       698 $21$ $41$ $57$  | Parameningeal         | 3        | 4                 | 291            | 24        | 141                 | 26        |         |
| teck       13       17       98         domen       12       16       127         domen       16       21       132 $3/P$ 12       16       141 $3/P$ 12       16       242 $3/P$ 29       38       502 $19$ 25       24 $28$ 37       469 $19$ 25       20 $28$ 37       469 $15$ 20       204 $43$ 57       771 $45$ 59       698 $21$ $45$ $59$  | Orbit                 | 4        | 5                 | 157            | 13        | 48                  | 6         |         |
| 12 $16$ $127$ domen $16$ $21$ $132$ $3/P$ $12$ $16$ $141$ $3/P$ $12$ $16$ $141$ $3/P$ $12$ $16$ $242$ $3/P$ $12$ $16$ $242$ $3/P$ $12$ $16$ $242$ $3/P$ $12$ $16$ $242$ $3/P$ $12$ $5$ $244$ $29$ $338$ $502$ $19$ $25$ $259$ $28$ $37$ $469$ $18$ $24$ $255$ $15$ $20$ $204$ $43$ $57$ $771$ $45$ $59$ $698$ $21$ $57$ $771$   | Head & Neck           | 13       | 17                | 98             | 8         | 38                  | 7         |         |
| domen     16     21     132       3/P     12     16     141       3/P     12     16     242       specified     4     5     242       29     38     502       19     25     259       28     37     469       15     20     204       15     20     204       15     20     204       15     57     771       45     59     698   | Extremity             | 12       | 16                | 127            | 10        | 73                  | 14        |         |
| 3/P     12     16     141       3/P     12     16     242       specified     4     5     244       29     38     502       19     25     259       28     37     469       18     24     255       18     24     255       18     24     204       15     20     204       45     57     771       21     57     771   | Trunk/Abdomen         | 16       | 21                | 132            | 11        | 40                  | ٢         |         |
| 3/P     12     16     242       specified     4     5     24       29     38     502       19     25     259       28     37     469       18     24     255       18     24     255       18     24     255       18     24     255       15     20     204       43     57     771       21     37     469  | GU B/P                | 12       | 16                | 141            | 11        | 21                  | 4         |         |
| specified     4     5     24       29     38     502       19     25     259       28     37     469       18     24     255       18     24     255       18     24     255       18     24     255       15     20     204       43     57     771       21     37     698  | GU non-B/P            | 12       | 16                | 242            | 20        | 153                 | 28        |         |
| 29     38     502       19     25     259       28     37     469       18     24     255       15     20     204       43     57     771       21     37     698   | Other, unspecified    | 4        | 5                 | 24             | 2         | 10                  | 2         | <0.0001 |
| 29     38     502       19     25     259       28     37     469       28     37     469       18     24     255       15     20     204       43     57     771       45     59     698       21     31     575   | IRS Stage             |          |                   |                |           |                     |           |         |
| 19     25     259       28     37     469       18     24     255       15     20     204       43     57     771       45     59     698       21     41     573   | 1                     | 29       | 38                | 502            | 41        | 238                 | 44        |         |
| 28     37     469       18     24     255       15     20     204       43     57     771       45     59     698       21     41     573   | 2                     | 19       | 25                | 259            | 21        | 78                  | 15        |         |
| 18     24     255       15     20     204       43     57     771       45     59     698       21     41     533   | 3                     | 28       | 37                | 469            | 38        | 220                 | 41        | 0.015   |
| 18     24     255       15     20     204       43     57     771       45     59     698       21     41     573   | IRS Group             |          |                   |                |           |                     |           |         |
| 15     20     204       43     57     771       45     59     698       21     41     572   | I                     | 18       | 24                | 255            | 21        | 123                 | 23        |         |
| 43     57     771       45     59     698       21     41     573   | Π                     | 15       | 20                | 204            | 17        | 100                 | 19        |         |
| 45 59 698   | III                   | 43       | 57                | 771            | 63        | 314                 | 58        | 0.44    |
| 45 59 698<br>21 41 522  | Tumor Size            |          |                   |                |           |                     |           |         |
| 21 /1 502   | ≤ 5cm                 | 45       | 59                | 698            | 57        | 232                 | 44        |         |
| 51 41 525   | > 5cm                 | 31       | 41                | 523            | 43        | 300                 | 56        | <0.0001 |

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|                       | <1 year | (N = 76) | < 1 year (N = 76) $1 - 9$ years (N = 1230) $\ge 10$ years (N = 537) | (N = 1230) | ≥10 years | (N = 537) |          |
|-----------------------|---------|----------|---|------------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| <b>Characteristic</b> | Z       | %        | Z   | %          | Z         | %         | p-vaue   |
| T-Stage               |         |          |   |            |           |           |          |
| T-1                   | 45      | 59       | 747   | 61         | 280       | 53        |          |
| T-2                   | 31      | 41       | 474   | 39         | 252       | 47        | 0.0037   |
| Nodes                 |         | -        | _   |            | -         | _         |          |
| 0N                    | 63      | 84       | 1068  | 88         | 412       | 78        |          |
| NI                    | 6       | 12       | 126   | 10         | 107       | 20        |          |
| NX                    | 3       | 4        | 24  | 2          | 11        | 2         | < 0.0001 |

UDS, undifferentiated sarcoma; B/P, Bladder/Prostate

\* Includes GI/liver, retroperitoneum, pelvis, chest wall

# Includes paratesticular

#### Table 2

Failure-free Survival for Infants by Patient Characteristics

| Characteristic  | Total | %  | 5-yr FFS (%) | p-value |
|-----------------|-------|----|--------------|---------|
| Age             |       |    |              |         |
| < 3 months      | 13    | 17 | 59           |         |
| $\geq$ 3 months | 63    | 83 | 56           | 0.86    |
| Site            |       |    |              |         |
| Favorable       | 29    | 38 | 52           |         |
| Unfavorable     | 43    | 57 | 61           | 0.43    |
| Histology       |       |    |              |         |
| Embryonal       | 43    | 57 | 64           |         |
| Alveolar        | 16    | 21 | 22           |         |
| UDS/Other       | 17    | 22 | 69           | 0.04    |
| Tumor Size      |       |    |              |         |
| ≤ 5cm           | 45    | 59 | 59           |         |
| > 5cm           | 31    | 41 | 54           | 0.86    |
| T-Stage         |       |    |              |         |
| T-1             | 45    | 59 | 59           |         |
| T-2             | 31    | 41 | 53           | 0.48    |
| Nodes           |       |    |              |         |
| N0              | 63    | 84 | 56           |         |
| N1              | 9     | 12 | 65           | 0.97    |

Favorable Site: non-parameningeal Head & Neck, Orbit, GU non-Bladder/Prostate

 $Unfavorable\ Site:\ Parameningeal,\ Extremity,\ Trunk/Abdomen,\ Bladder/Prostate$ 

UDS, undifferentiated sarcoma

# Table 3

# **Radiation Therapy Delivered**

Radiation received and radiation received as assigned by protocol for each IRS Group

|                  | Group I | (N = 18) | Group II | (N = 15) | Group II | Group I (N = 18) Group II (N = 15) Group III (N = 43) | Total | tal | 5-yr FFS (95% CI) | <u>p-value</u> |
|------------------|---------|----------|----------|----------|----------|---|-------|-----|-------------------|----------------|
|                  | z       | %        | Z        | %        | z        | %   | Z     | %   |                   |                |
| RT               |         |          |          |          |          |   |       |     |                   |                |
| Yes              | ю       | 17       | 10       | 68       | 20       | 46  | 33    | 43  | 58% (39%,73%)     |                |
| No               | 15      | 83       | 5        | 33       | 23       | 54  | 43    | 57  | 56% (40%,70%)     | 0.77           |
| * RT as assigned |         |          |          |          |          |   |       |     |                   |                |
| Yes              | 16      | 89       | 10       | 71       | 16       | 40  | 42    | 58  | 70% (53%,82%)     |                |
| No               | 2       | 11       | 4        | 29       | 24       | 60  | 30    | 42  | 46% (27%,63%)     | 0.074          |

Excludes 4 patients (Group II = 1, Group III = 3) for whom details of XRT were not available or were not sufficient to make a determination.

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**Chemotherapy Doses** 

Mean percent doses of chemotherapeutic agents administered per treatment phase

|       | Alykylators (Cyclop | Alykylators (Cyclophosphamide or Ifosfamide) | Ņ  | Vincristine | Dac | Dactinomycin | ā  | Etoposide |
|-------|---------------------|--|----|-------------|-----|--------------|----|-----------|
| Phase | Z                   | Mean %                                       | z  | Mean % N    | z   | Mean %       | Z  | Mean%     |
| 1     | 60                  | 58   | 74 | 60          | 58  | 67           | 16 | 58        |
| 2     | 53                  | 78   | 64 | 75          | 46  | 87           | 15 | 93        |
| 3     | 47                  | 78   | 59 | 78          | 48  | 87           | 13 | 92        |
| 4     | 43                  | 83   | 53 | 83          | 52  | 89           | ,  | ı         |

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Table 5

Site of Failure and Time to Failure by Site

|                |    |    | Time to | Lime to First Failure (months) | (months) |
|----------------|----|----|---------|--------------------------------|----------|
|                | z  | %  | Mean    | Median                         | Range    |
| All            | 32 |    | 17      | 13                             | 1 - 72   |
| Local/Regional | 20 | 62 | 16      | 14                             | 1 - 50   |
| Metastatic     | 9  | 19 | 25      | 18                             | 1 - 72   |
| Local + Mets   | 3  | 6  | 19      | 24                             | 5 - 28   |
| Toxic Death    | 7  | 9  | œ       | 8                              | 6 - 10   |
| Unknown        | -  | ю  |         |                                |          |