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The role of radiation therapy in the treatment of desmoid tumors

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Purpose: To investigate the role of radiation therapy for the desmoids tumors.

Methods: Five patients with desmoids tumors treated with radiation therapy between 2011 and 2013 in our department. Three was males and two females. The tumor site was in upper extremity in one patient and four in lower extremity. Radiation therapy was delivered postoperatively in 4 patients (incomplete resection or positive margins) and one received preoperative radiation therapy. The total tumor dose was 50Gy in 25 daily fractions. We used 3-D conformal treatment. All the patients conclude the treatment with low toxicity according the RTOG -scoring criteria.

Results: After twenty months only one patient had local recurrence and the cosmetics results were sufficient.

Conclusion: Radiation therapy is an effective treatment after incomplete resection of the desmoids tumor.