

Medical Audit for Improvement of Patient Care

Pathology service is the backbone of health services to provide evidence based quality services to the people. Like other pathological tools, histopathology is essential for accurate diagnosis, and treatment.

In this issue of the journal Pabitra Bista et al has written the Histo-morphological spectrum of central nervous system disease where Neoplastic lesions has predominated 82.0% were primary nervous system neoplasm out of which 20 cases were found to be brain metastasis. The article does not explain about the types of surgery like stereotactic biopsy or debulking procedure, subtotal resection, or maximal safe resection.

It is vital that high standards of histopathology reporting are achieved and maintained, with appropriate measures being introduced towards improvement where required.¹ The clinico- radiological findings and histopathological correlation is required to establish the grade and stage of any tumor. It gives the significant meaning in choosing the treatment modality and prognosis of that disease. It is the responsibility of the surgeon to provide every possible clinical detail regarding any biopsy specimen to the histopathologist.

The report should be of "gold standard" and often includes the primary diagnosis on which patient management depends.² Only then it will be possible for histopathologist to give a complete and comprehensive report which will be important from treatment and prognostic point of view. Such information is lacking in the paper but it shows the spectrum of condition and area to focus in future. Inadequate tissue for processing and normal glial tissue are results of failure in part of surgeons to use image guidance or stereotactic system.

It is vital that high standards of histopathology reporting are achieved and maintained, with appropriate measures being introduced towards improvement where required. The report entered into the patient's notes should be of "gold standard" and often includes the primary diagnosis on which patient management depends. It is essential to introduce immunohistochemistry in pathology department to reach to determine diagnosis in doubtful cases.

1 Myskow M W, Zuk J A, Kenyon W E, Audit in histopathology: Description of an internal quality assessment scheme with analysis of preliminary results; J Clin Pathol 1991;44:10-16

2 Lee FD. External quality assessment in histopathology: an overview. J Clin Pathol 1989;42:1009-11.