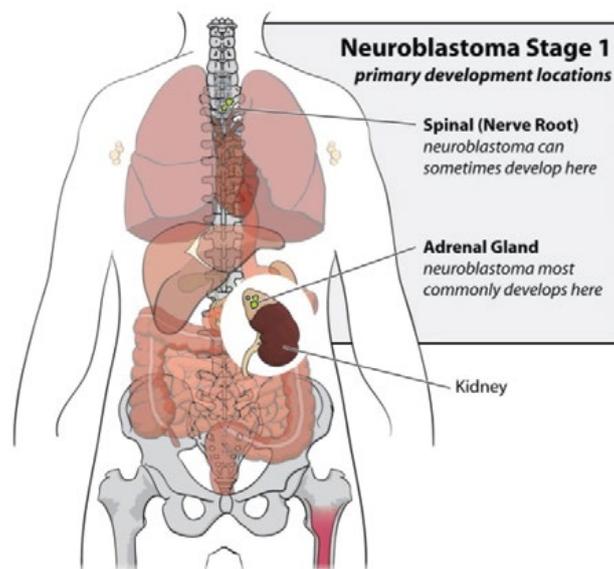


Neuroblastoma: The Infant Cancer

Coinneach Adams*

Journal of Tumour Research and Reports, Spain

Above given figure depicts a Disease named: Neuroblastoma is solid malignant tumour which occurs mostly in unborn infant . Neuroblastoma occurs mostly in nerve tissue area in adrenal glands located above kidneys. Neuroblastoma forms from immature nerve cells called neuroblasts as these cells are not able to differentiate into intended cell. Neuroblasts are mostly found in unborn infants. Neuroblast do not mature and forms solid abnormal mass (tumour). NeuroBlastoma does harm to stem cell (precursor cell) in the foetus. It occurs due to genetic disfunction such as mutation in cell which leads to formation of tumour or can be genetically inherited from parents. With time as foetus grows, neuroblasts turns into nerve cells and adrenal gland cells. As soon as foetus become infant or baby is born, neuroblast matures and sometimes it takes shape of tumour (Neuroblastoma).



Traits of Neuroblastoma include: Following are signs that a baby is suffering from neuroblastoma: Lump in abdomen; Skin lesions with blue patches; Bulging Eyes, Eye Colour Change; Roopy Eyelid; Constricted Pupil; Chest, Arm, Legs Pain; Breathing Problems; Fever and Anemia; Constant Diarrhea.

Symptoms of Neuroblastoma

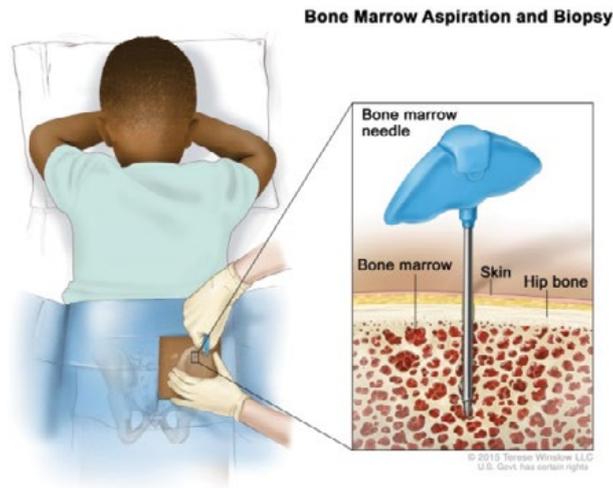


Correspondence to: Adams C; Journal of Tumour Research and Reports, Spain; E-mail: adams@gmail.com

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Diagnosis:

Following are various methods to diagnose Neuroblastoma:

Urine tests: Urine Sample is taken for Tumour markers which are produced by a neuroblastoma tumor. Neuroblastoma patients have Urinary catecholamine metabolites in their urine and blood which can be detected easily.

Biopsy: A piece of cells is taken and is tested for tumor as neuroblastoma are easily detected.

Bone marrow aspiration and biopsy: If catecholamines level is high in urine then it can get spread to bone marrow and from bone marrow; Computed Tomography (CT or CAT) scan: CT Scans are used for finding neuroblastoma in abdomen.

Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI): MRI Scans gives images of soft tissues of body and thus neuroblastoma tumor is visible easily.