

# MULTIMODAL MANAGEMENT OF GROWTH HORMONE-SECRETING PITUITARY ADENOMAS - THE EXPERIENCE OF THE ENDOCRINOLOGY DEPARTMENT TÂRGU-MUREȘ, ROMANIA, IN THE LAST DECADE

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## INTRODUCTION, OBJECTIVES

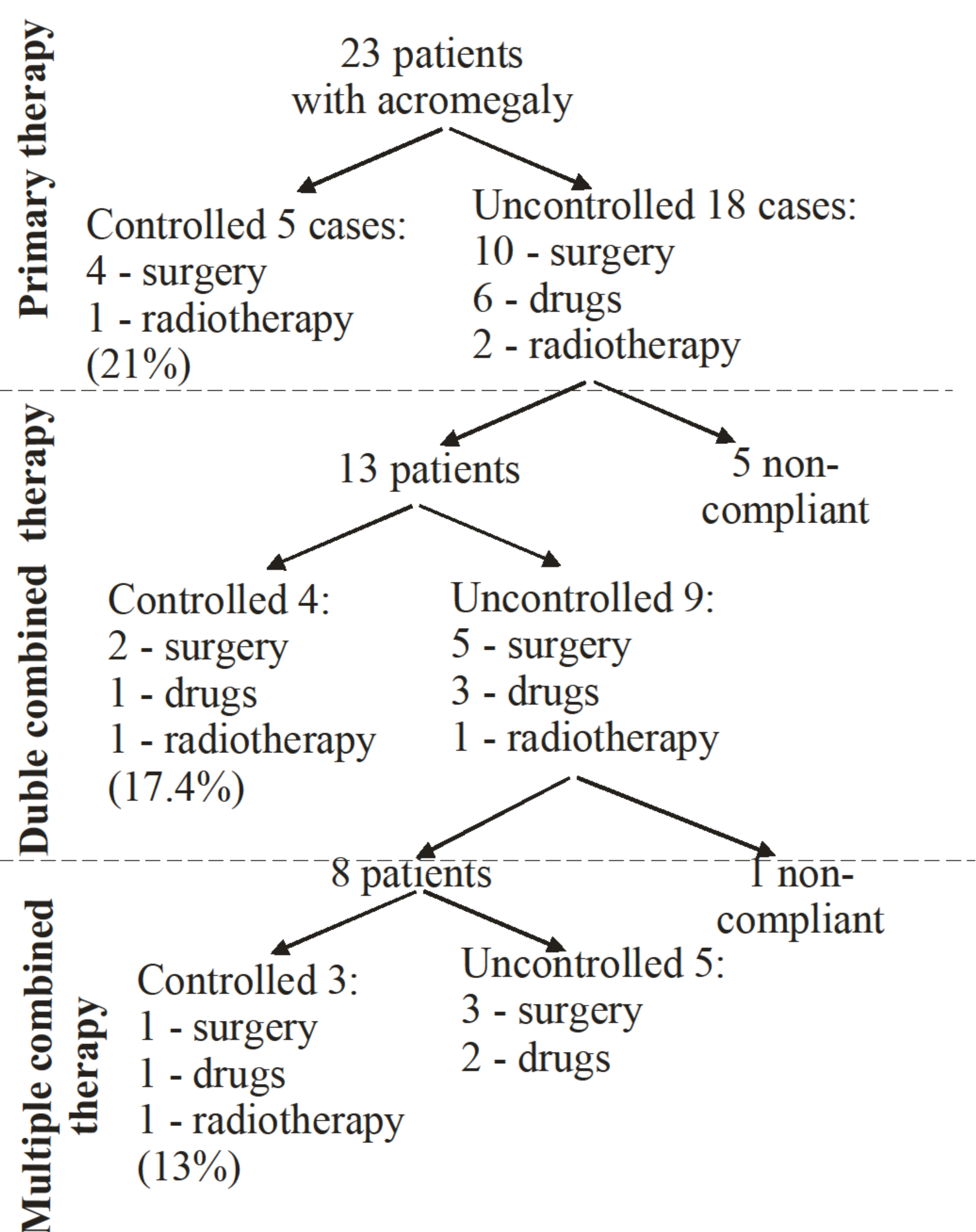
**Introduction.** The diagnostical and therapeutical management of growth hormone(GH)-secreting pituitary adenomas has been modified in many aspects in the last decade, and the guidelines also have been considerably changed.

**Objective:** to evaluate the management of acromegaly applied in an endocrinological clinical unit from Romania, and the efficiency of different therapeutical schemes.

## MATERIAL AND METHODS

23 patients with acromegaly, treated and followed-up were included in this study.

The positive diagnosis of GH-secreting pituitary adenoma was based on the elevated age-related IGF-1-level, suppressed GH-value >1ng/mL during oral glucose tolerance test and conclusive hypothalamo-pituitary MRI. The applied different therapeutical schemes (surgery, drugs, radiotherapy and combination), and the efficacy of these – assessed by periodic control of IGF-1-level, suppressed GH-value and MRI – were evaluated.



## RESULTS

78.3% of the patients had GH-secreting adenoma, the other 21.7% mixed, GH/PRL-secreting form. At diagnosis the mean suppressed GH-level was 23.2+/-6.8ng/mL, mean IGF-1-value 784.5+/-139.4ng/mL, mean adenoma size 17.7+/-2.8mm.

**First line therapy** was neurosurgery in 14 cases, medical treatment (somatostatine-analogue+/-dopamine-agonist) in six and conventional radiotherapy in three patients, out of which in five cases (21.7%, four after surgery, one after radiotherapy) a good control was achieved.

The uncontrolled cases received a **second therapeutical procedure**, and from them other four cases (17.4%, two reinterventions, one after drug administration and one after radiotherapy) reached a good control.

Finally, at eight patients **combined multiple therapeutical management** (surgery+drug+/-radiotherapy) was applied, and other three cases (13%) been brought under control.

During long-term follow-up six patients become non-compliant, and they did not return to reevaluations.

## CONCLUSIONS

From all the 23 subjects in 52.1% an optimal therapeutic control was achieved with all the applied treatment schemes. Acromegaly could be controlled by monotherapy, mainly neurosurgery in 21.7%, by double treatment scheme in an other 17.4% and by multiple therapeutical combinations in 13% of the cases.

