

Pheochromocytomas and paragangliomas: association between tumor size and measurements of metanephrines and catecholamines

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INTRODUCTION

- Pheochromocytomas (PHEO) and Paragangliomas (PGL) are rare catecholamine-secreting tumors.
- Some authors proposed that there is a positive linear relationship between tumor size and measurements of metanephrines, and an absence of association with catecholamine levels.

OBJECTIVES

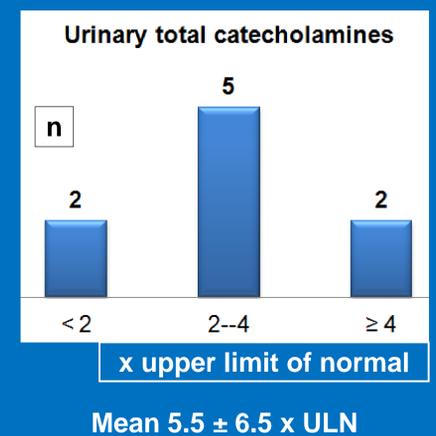
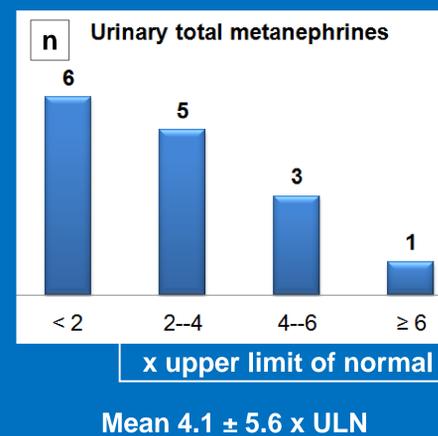
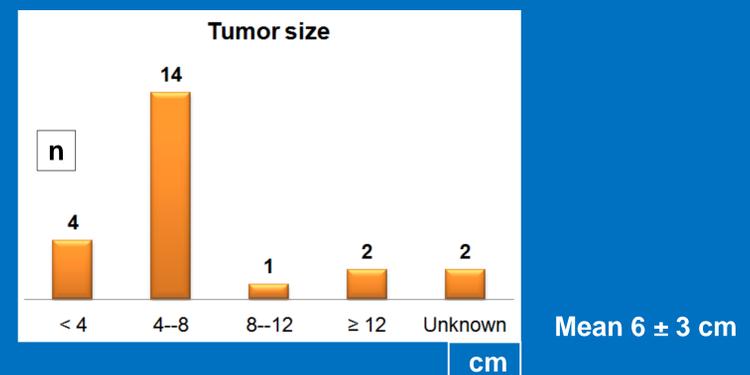
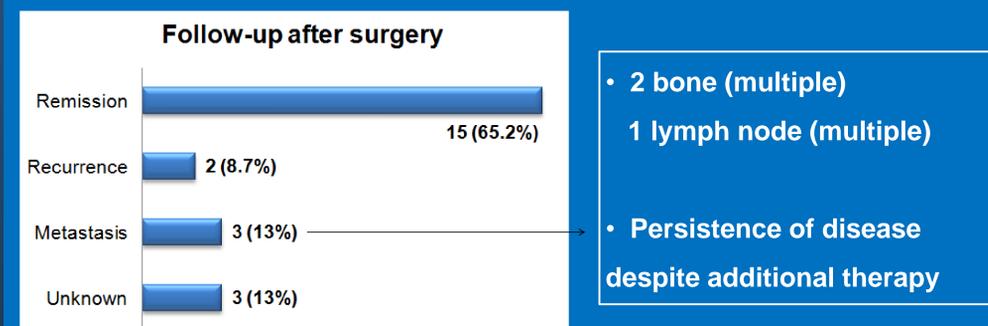
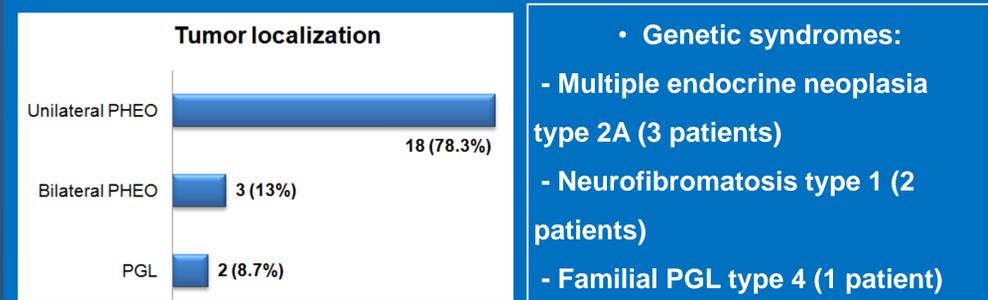
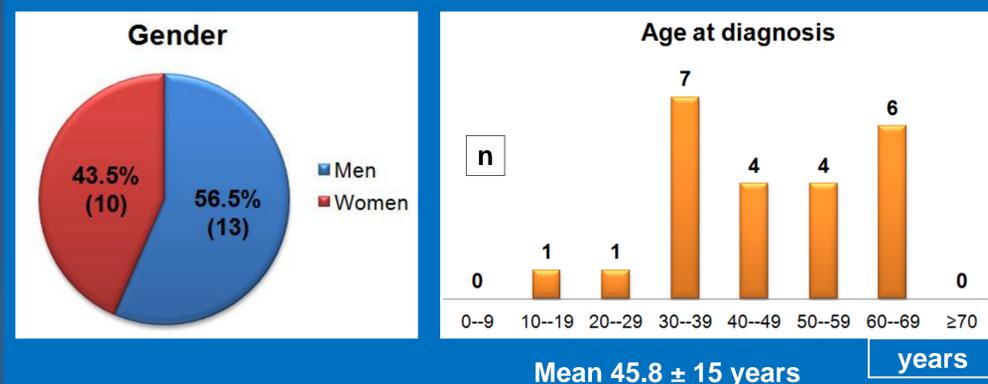
- To review and characterize patients diagnosed with PHEO and PGL in Garcia de Orta Hospital.
- To determine the relationship between tumor size and measurements of urinary total metanephrines and total catecholamines.

METHODS

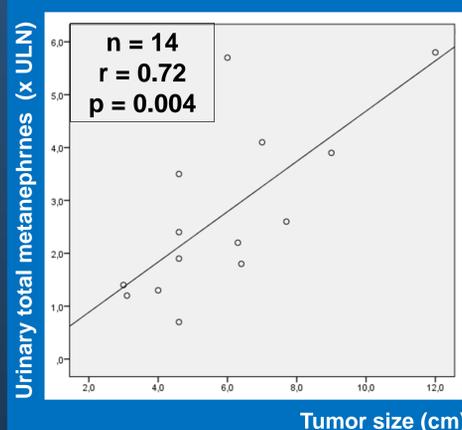
- Retrospective study with revision of medical records, between 1992 and 2013.
- Statistical analysis was performed by simple linear regression using SPSS 20.

RESULTS

- 23 patients with PHEO and PGL

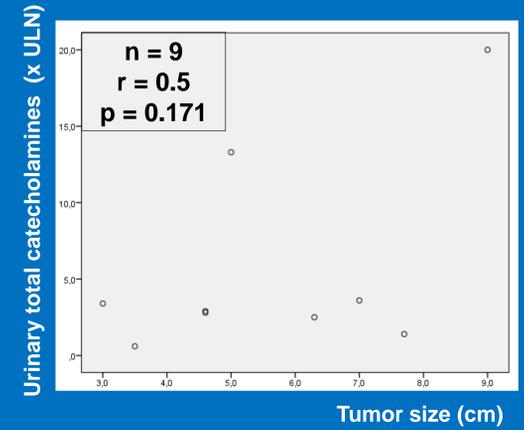


Association size and metanephrines



Strong positive linear relationship

Association size and catecholamines



No linear relationship

CONCLUSION

- This study suggests that an increase in the size of PHEO and PGL is related with a rise in metanephrine levels; an association with catecholamines was not demonstrated. These differences may be related to the fact that the secretion of catecholamines is intermittent, whereas metanephrine formation is a more continuous process.

REFERENCES

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