The yield of cancer diagnosis in patients being referred to the adnexal periocular oncology service through the 2-week wait referral pathway

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Purpose

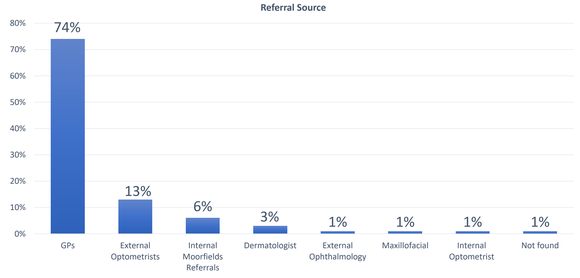
- Patients suspected of periocular cancer are referred under **the NHS 2-week wait** (2WW) pathway to our adnexal skin cancer service.
- Referrals are sent using a proforma that is not specific for adnexal oncology, making triage difficult.
- There is a need for **referral accuracy** to ensure everyone is seen in a timely manner.
- Earlier diagnosis leads to a higher 5-year survival and overall better outcomes.[1]
- **AIM:** Determine the quality of referrals and outcomes of patients referred via the NHS cancer waiting time initiative.

Methodology

- **Retrospective case-control study of all patients referred using the 2WW** pathway to the adnexal oncology service at Moorfields Eye Hospital, City Road, between July 2019 to June 2022.
- Inclusion criteria: accepted 2WW referral, upgraded to 2WW from normal referral.
- Outcome measure: incidence of biopsy-proven diagnosis of peri-ocular cancer.

Results

- **173** patients were referred to our services during the study period.
- **72%** had the lesion described.
- **62%** reported the onset.
- **48%** reported risk factors for skin cancer.
- **86%** were seen within 2 weeks of referral.
- **54%** had a biopsy with **22%** being routine.
- **10% of patients were diagnosed with peri-ocular cancer.**
- Referrals were highest from general practitioners



Conclusion

- Inaccurate referrals overwhelm our service and result in greater difficulty seeing patients within the 2WW timeframe.
- The more sensitive our screening process is, the more effective and equitable care we can deliver to our patients.
- We have developed a new referral pathway which is more specific for adnexal oncology. It is currently undergoing validation and we invite your input.

Disclosures & References

Disclosures: None to declare for all the others.

References:

1. Eye melanoma - statistics [Internet]. Cancer.Net. 2023 [cited 2023May1]. Available from: https://www.cancer.net/cancer-types/eye-melanoma/statistics#:~:text=If%20the%20cancer%20is%20diagnosed,well%20the%20treatment%20plan%20works.

Referral form

Feedback form