

Conclusion; Malignant melanoma of the rectum is extremely rare, highly aggressive, and difficult to diagnose. Bulky fungating masses in the distal rectum obscuring the lumen without causing significant obstruction seen on CT and MRI scans raise the possibility of anorectal malignant melanoma.

Keywords: Imaging, malignant, melanoma

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Trauma System in Albania. A challenge that Requires long-term and Sustainable Solutions.

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Abstract

Introduction Developing an effective trauma care system is an ongoing challenge in Albania, as it is in many countries. Trauma remains a significant cause of morbidity and mortality, particularly among the younger population in Albania. While the need for a structured trauma system has been recognized, there are several challenges that need to be addressed.

Lack of a Formalized Trauma System:

Inconsistent Data Collection and Quality Improvement:

Shortage of Specialized Trauma Care Personnel:

Infrastructure and Resource Limitations:

Challenges in Transportation and Prehospital Care:

Public Awareness and Injury Prevention:

Coordination Among Healthcare Facilities:

Advocacy and Government Support:

Conclusion: establishing a comprehensive trauma system in Albania is a multifaceted challenge that requires collaboration among healthcare stakeholders, advocacy, resource allocation, and a commitment to improving trauma care from the moment of injury through rehabilitation. This ongoing challenge is critical for reducing trauma-related morbidity and mortality in the country.

Keywords: trauma system, public health infrastructure, sustainable development, trauma care,

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Prostate Cancer in Albania: Correlation of Preoperative and Radical Prostatectomy Gleason Score/Grade Group: A Comparative Study.

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Abstract

Introduction: Prostate cancer is a complex disease that affects millions of men globally, predominantly in high human development index regions (HDI). The Gleason score (GS) places patients with prostate cancer in one of five categories (ISUP Grade Group). GS/GG is not only an important preoperative predictor of cancer behaviour but it is also used to help guide treatment.

Material and Method: It was observed the prevalence of PCa in Albania in a six-year period (2017-2022). Through retrospective study of 96 patients who underwent TUR-P and radical prostatectomy (PR) in this period, this study examined the correlations of preoperative GS/GG with age, prostate volume, PSA level including patients with preoperative GS≤6/GG1 and patients with preoperative GS≥7/GG≥2, examining the predictors of upgrade and downgrade results.

Results: The average frequency of PCa in last six years in our country was 19.7%. The average age was 71,4 (±8,17) years. The most common tumor was GS≤6/GG 1 (39.6%), pT2 stage (58.3%). The discordance between biopsy GS/GG and radical prostatectomy GS/GG was observed to be 58.3% in the current study. The initial low Gleason score was associated with a subsequent significant rise in the final scoring on postoperative histopathology.

Conclusion: About 2 in 10 patients that was examined have PCa. TUR-P is a modestly reliable method for defining GS/GG of PCa, considering high number of upgraded GS/GG on postoperative material. Accurate defining of GS/GG is significant for appropriate treatment of PCa especially in elderly patients whose GS/GG tend to be higher.

Keywords: PCa, ISUP Grade Group, Frequency.