

## ADVANCED SACRAL CHORDOMA: A MULTIDISCIPLINARY TEAM APPROACH

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### ABSTRACT

Sacral chordomas are rare, low-grade and slow-growing malignant bone tumours arising from the sacral bone. They are locally aggressive with the tendency to metastasise to the lungs. Surgical resection remains the mainstay of treatment of sacral chordomas. However, most patients presented late with large tumours and intra-abdominal extension-making en bloc resection highly challenging. Besides that, surgical resection poses risk of injury to the surrounding structures such as major blood vessels, bladder, ureters and rectum due to their proximity to the tumour. Therefore, multidisciplinary team approach is vital in anticipating possible complications and preventing surgical morbidity. We present a case of advanced sacral chordoma which has been successfully resected with the assistance of pre-operative selective arterial embolisation as a preemptive therapy. Case Report: A 58-year-old lady presented with a large sacral chordoma (17.17 cm x 27.3 cm x 30.5 cm) with sacral erosion, infiltration to gluteus maximus, medius and minimus muscles and lung metastasis. A decision to perform a surgical resection was made to alleviate the pain secondary to sacral nerve compression. Anticipating massive bleeding intra-operatively, pre-operative arterial embolisation was performed involving one branch of right internal iliac artery as well as five branches of left internal and external iliac arteries using endovascular coils. The tumour was resected with partial sacrectomy from the lower border of S1. Intra-operatively, 6 pints of packed cells were transfused with estimated blood loss of 4 litres. The patient recovered well after the surgery. She was pain-free post-operatively with no lower limb neurological deficit. Surgical resection remains the treatment of choice for sacral chordoma. Pre-operative selective arterial embolisation can reduce intraoperative bleeding and avoid potentially convoluted surgery.

**Keywords:** Advanced Sacral Chordoma, Multidisciplinary Team Approach