The Societies for Pediatric Urology – Fall Congress

# Patient experiences and treatment access with pediatric rhabdomyosarcoma

THE UNIVERSITY OF

KANSAS HEALTH SYSTEM

MAYO CLINIC

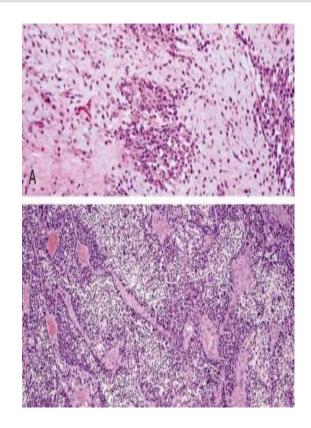
Matthew Larson, MD<sup>1</sup>, Patricio Gargollo, MD<sup>2</sup>.

<sup>1</sup>University of Kansas Medical Center, Kansas City, KS, USA, <sup>2</sup>Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN, USA.

### Pediatric Rhabdomyosarcoma

# Background

- Incidence: ~350 cases per year<sup>1</sup>
  - 15-20% arise in the GU
- Treatment: Radiation + chemotherapy with goal of bladder preservation
- Overall 5-year survival is ~84%<sup>2</sup>
- Rare disease that leads to unique challenges faced by patients and their families



#### Methods

39-question online survey



Members of two online support groups invited to participate One group for parents of children living with rhabdomyosarcoma One group for parents of deceased children from rhabdomyosarcoma



#### Inclusion:

All respondents with RMS age 18 and younger Excluded multiple responses from same IP address

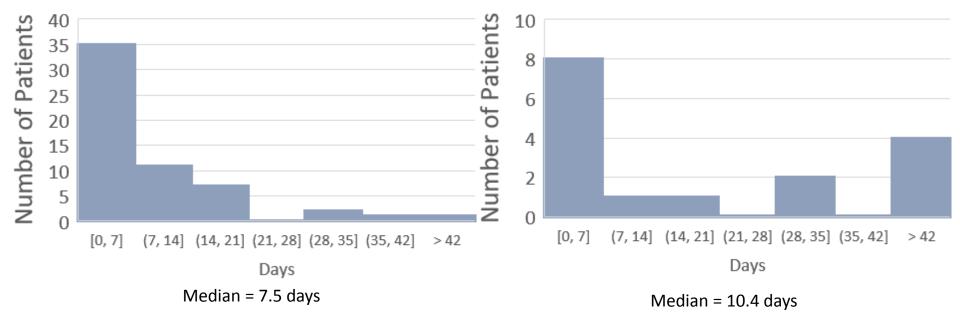
# Demographics

DEMOGRAPHIC	VALUE	NUM. PATIENTS	PERCENTAGE
Sex			
	Male	41	56%
	Female	32	44%
Age			
	0-4 years	30	41%
	4-8 years	18	25%
	12-16 years	8	11%
	16+	10	14%
Histology			
	Embryonal	51	70%
	Alveolar	14	19%
	Undifferentiated	8	11%
Status			
	Living	66	90%
	Deceased	7	10%

#### **Time-to-Treatment**

### After Initial Diagnosis

After Recurrence



#### **Treatment Access**



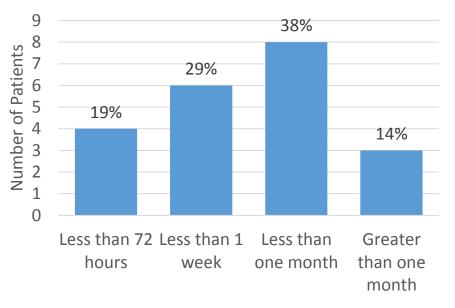
#### Travelled > 100 miles for care: 48%

Sought second opinion: 43%



Fertility preservation offered: 23%

#### Time to Obtain Second Opinion



# Free Response Data

What do you wish you knew back when your child was diagnosed?

- Treatment options
- Realistic expectations
- Alternative therapies
- Side effects



# Limitations/Conclusions

- Limitations
  - Patient reported data
  - Users confined to multiple-choice answers
- Treatment delays appear to be common among patients with RMS
- Very few patients are being offered fertility preservation
- Barriers to expert care include insurance coverage, social situation, and travel expenses