

# Sacral chordoma outcome

Chordoma in the sacrum is an aggressive, locally invasive neoplasm, and has a poor prognosis.

The presence of **subcutaneous** fat extension was an independent **predictor** of decreased **OS**. Other MRI findings with potential for future evaluation include size, presence of soft tissue tail, extension above L5/S1, and **sacroiliac joint** and **piriformis muscle** invasion <sup>1)</sup>.

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A study identified two predictive variables for local **recurrence-free survival** (LRFS) (previous tumor surgery and type of surgical **resection**) and two for **overall survival** (OS) (age and impaired **motor function**) in surgically treated SC patients. The results indicate that **en bloc resection** reduces LR but does not influence OS. However, this was likely due to short follow-up (3.2 years) <sup>2)</sup>.

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Dedifferentiated chordomas are aggressive malignant tumors with a higher risk of local recurrence, metastases, and early mortality than conventional chordomas. Tumor diameter >10 cm, marginal resection, and **sacroiliac joint** infiltration may be associated with increased risk of local recurrence and mortality. Those with a smaller burden of dedifferentiated disease (<1 cm) within the primary chordoma have a better prognosis. Patients should be counseled about these risks before surgery and should have regular follow-up for the detection of local recurrence and metastases <sup>3)</sup>.

<sup>1)</sup>

Zuckerman SL, Amini B, Lee SH, Rao G, Tatsui CE, Rhines LD. Predictive Value of Preoperative Magnetic Resonance Imaging Findings for Survival and Local Recurrence in Patients Undergoing En Bloc Resection of Sacral Chordomas. Neurosurgery. 2018 Dec 12. doi: 10.1093/neuros/nyy578. [Epub ahead of print] PubMed PMID: 30541143.

<sup>2)</sup>

Varga PP, Szövérfi Z, Fisher CG, Boriani S, Gokaslan ZL, Dekutoski MB, Chou D, Quraishi NA, Reynolds JJ, Luzzati A, Williams R, Fehlings MG, Germscheid NM, Lazary A, Rhines LD. Surgical treatment of sacral chordoma: prognostic variables for local recurrence and overall survival. Eur Spine J. 2015 May;24(5):1092-101. doi: 10.1007/s00586-014-3728-6. Epub 2014 Dec 23. PubMed PMID: 25533857.

<sup>3)</sup>

Kayani B, Sewell MD, Hanna SA, Saifuddin A, Aston W, Pollock R, Skinner J, Molloy S, Briggs TW. Prognostic factors in the operative management of dedifferentiated sacral chordomas. Neurosurgery. 2014 Sep;75(3):269-75; discussion 275. doi: 10.1227/NEU.0000000000000423. PubMed PMID: 24867206.

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