## Primitive Neuroectodermal Tumour of the Chest Wall—A Report of Two Cases and Review of Literature

C M Lim, \*MBBS, M J Naik, \*\*MBBS, FRCS (Eng), S B Ng, \*\*\*MBBS, F K Cheah, \*MBChB, MRCP (UK), FRCR (UK), T Agasthian, \*\*MBBS, FRCS (Glas & Edin), M Med (Surg)

## **Abstract**

Introduction: Primitive neuroectodermal tumours (PNETs) of the chest wall are rare entities and little is known regarding its biological activity and prognostic factors. Two cases are reported and the available literature reviewed to highlight the presentation and management of these tumours. Clinical Features: We report 2 patients who were diagnosed with PNET of the chest wall in our centre. As there are no clinical features or basic diagnostic measures which are characteristic of these tumours, diagnosis is based on special tests. With the advent of newer immunohistochemical methods, it is now diagnosed more confidently. Treatment: Both patients received multidisciplinary modalities of treatment, comprising extensive surgical resection, chemotherapy and radiotherapy. Outcome: One patient succumbed to the disease one year after diagnosis and the other is currently disease-free, both clinically and radiologically at 24 months. Conclusion: Despite multidisciplinary modalities of treatment, the prognosis of PNET is still generally poor. Early diagnosis and treatment are important to improve the chances of survival.

Ann Acad Med Singapore 2000; 29:760-3

Key words: Askin's tumour, Chest wall sarcoma, Homer Wright rosettes, Immunohistochemistry

Department of Pathology

+ Consultant Radiologist Department of Radiology

Singapore General Hospital

Address for Reprints: Dr Lim Chwee Ming, National Heart Centre, Mistri Wing, 17 Third Hospital Avenue, Singapore 168752.

<sup>\*</sup> Medical Officer

<sup>\*\*</sup> Registrar

<sup>++</sup> Consultant Cardiothoracic Surgeon Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery National Heart Centre

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> Medical Officer