

21st Working Group Meeting of the Scandinavian Sarcoma Group, December 5-6, 2016, Malmö.

Morphology/Tumor biology working group

Participants: Fredrik Mertens, Karolin Hansén Nord, Per Rissler, Magnus Hansson, Hans Christian Haugland, Felix Haglund, Johan Wejde.

1. Karolin Hansén Nord was elected as new chairman for tumor biology/co-chairman of the group. Karolin is an associate professor and research group leader at the Department of Clinical Genetics at Lund University, and has a special research interest in bone tumors.
2. We discussed whether to have an extra day for morphology review in combination with the next working group meeting in Malmö, February 5-6, 2018, but decided not to. Our view was that the benefit of the working group meetings, and the most important function of the meeting, is the possibility to meet and discuss with colleagues from other disciplines, but also planning and follow-up of common projects together with the tumor biologists/geneticists. The time is too limited to allow for proper review of pathology cases, which should be exercised at a multi-headed microscope at a pathology department. At the meeting in Malmö, a microscope equipped with a digital camera was available and a few interesting cases were demonstrated, but such an equipment is not optimal for reviewing a larger number of cases.
3. There were wishes for more cooperation between geneticists and pathologists. The pathologists have met once or twice a year for peer review meetings, but the geneticists do not participate in these meetings, since it is not very fruitful for them. This limits the occasions for regular meeting between geneticists and pathologists to the working group meeting, which is why it is important to have representatives from as many pathology departments as possible at this meeting, although it is not always possible.
4. Regarding location for future review meetings, there has been interest from our Finnish colleagues to participate in the group. Jyrki Parkkinen in Tampere has offered to arrange a meeting during spring 2017, which would make it easier for our colleagues in Tampere, Turku and Helsinki to join. If this might not be possible, we have planned to meet in Umeå, in Sweden.

We hope to have the possibility to meet once again this year, in November in Lund, which would make it easier for our colleagues at Clinical Genetics to join the meeting.

5. Regarding the subject for future review meetings: There are no ongoing studies that require review of cases by the morphology group. There is a wish that the morphology group should produce scientific articles. The reviews performed by the morphology group have been part

of several doctoral theses, but the group has in itself not produced any “pure” paper in pathology for many years. At the meeting in Malmö, we tried to identify some tumor groups which could be interesting to review, in the prospect of possible additional analyses that could lead to publication. We decided to aim at looking at DSRCT, “Ewing-like sarcomas” and aggressive osteoblastomas at our next meeting, although the first step must be to identify how many cases we have collected together. With regard to this, we also decided to revise which SNOMED codes that we use for tumor registration, in order to facilitate search for unusual tumors. There is a system for this in the WHO Classification (ICD-O codes), but there are possibly some local differences in how tumors are registered.

Other tumors that could also be interesting to look at are cases of late recurrences or late metastatic disease. The problem would be to find these tumors.

Johan Wejde