ABC OF SURGICAL TEACHING: TIME TO CONSIDER A GLOBAL BLUEPRINT FOR HOLISTIC EDUCATION

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10.1136/ijgc-2022-ESGO.468

Introduction/Background Educating and equipping students and trainees into clinicians capable of meeting healthcare demands and service provision needs is essential. Unprecedented events like COVID-19 pandemic, highlight urgent need for reformation of training to ensure high quality education is maintained. To this end, we describe an innovative and globally adaptable blueprint for establishing a surgical curriculum, aiming to optimize preparation of future surgeons

Methodology We used a structured protocol to synthesise evidence from previous systematic reviews focused on surgical education alongside a series of focused original educational studies. This approach allowed incorporation of prospectively applied novel ideas into the existing landscape of published evidence. All material used for this proof of concept derives from the outputs of a dedicated research network for surgical education (eMERG).

Results We propose the foundation blueprint framework called ‘Omnigon iG4’ as a globally applicable model. It allows adaptation to individual local educational environments for designing, appraising and/or refining surgical curricula. We also describe the ‘Omnigon iG4 Hexagon Pragmatic Model,’ a novel perspective model which assesses the performance of our blueprint in a multi-layer fashion. This ‘Hexagon’ model is the first to introduce pragmatic outcomes in curricula performance assessment.

Conclusion This proof of concept, ‘Omnigon iG4,’ proposes an adaptable version of a curriculum blueprint. The framework allows educators to establish a surgical curriculum with the ability to map out competencies, permitting full control over their intended learning outcomes. This can form the basis for developing globally adaptable multifaceted Simulation-Based learning (SBL) courses or even surgical curricula for undergraduates.

2022-RA-1632-ESGO

Abstracts

BREAST CARCINOSARCOMA: A REPORT OF AN EXTREMELY RARE ENTITY WITH A REVIEW OF THE LITERATURE

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10.1136/ijgc-2022-ESGO.469

Introduction/Background Breast metaplastic carcinoma with mesenchymal differentiation, or carcinosarcoma, is a biphasic malignant tumor. It is composed of malignant epithelial and mesenchymal components. It accounts for less than 1% of all breast malignancies. Our aim was to discuss the clinical aspect, the anatomo-pathological characteristic, and the evolution of this rare entity.

Methodology We report nine cases of breast carcinosarcoma followed up at Salah Azaiez institute of oncology in Tunis between 2004 and 2022.

Results Our study enrolled nine female patients. The median age was 59 years. One patient had a medical history of breast carcinoma, treated 4 years before developing the carcinosarcoma. In six cases, the tumor was localized in the left breast and in the right side in three cases. Clinically, four patients had T2 tumors, one a T3, three a T4b, and one a T4d. The median size was 8 cm. In the histology, the tumor was triple negative in all cases. Eight patients had radical surgery, conservative surgery was performed in one case. The ninth patient had an adjuvant treatment with chemotherapy and radiation therapy. Metastatic recurrence to the lung and the liver was noted in two cases. The follow-up of the 7 other patients showed no signs of local or distant relapse.

Conclusion Breast carcinosarcomas are rare and aggressive entities. Their clinical and radiological aspects are non-specific. The treatment usually associates surgery to chemotherapy and radiation. Hormonal therapy has no place due to the usual absence of hormonal receptors.