

Outcomes of neuro-oncology and skull base patients during COVID-19 pandemic: national cohort study (CovidNeuroOnc)

Research Group: British Neurosurgical Trainee Research Collaborative (BNTRC)

Project Leads: Michael Jenkinson (Liverpool), Daniel Fountain (Manchester), Rory Piper (Oxford), Stephen Price (Cambridge), Michael Poon (Edinburgh), Peter Hutchinson (Cambridge)

There is an urgent need to understand the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on decision making and outcomes in neuro-oncology and skull base patients. Several organisations, professional societies and charities have issued guidelines [1-5]. Capturing real-world data and sharing national experience will inform the management of this complex group of patients with brain tumours throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

Primary objective:

- To determine whether the COVID-19 pandemic changed the management decision in patients with newly-diagnosed or recurrent brain tumours

Secondary objectives:

- Determine the use of best supportive care
- Determine the use of oncology treatment in glioma without histology diagnosis
- Determine the use of surgery at initial diagnosis or recurrence
- Determine the use of radiotherapy at initial diagnosis or recurrence
- Determine the use of radiosurgery for metastasis
- Determine the use of chemotherapy at initial diagnosis or recurrence
- Determine the overall survival of treated and untreated high-grade glioma

Eligibility criteria:

- Newly-diagnosed adult (>16 years) brain tumour based on CT/MRI that radiologically is low- or high-grade glioma, primary CNS lymphoma, meningioma, vestibular schwannoma, or metastases

Study period

- The study will be open from 1 April 2020 until 30 June 2020 (3 months). All participating sites should collect data throughout this period. Patient management should be tracked along the clinical pathway to ensure complete data capture is possible

Statistical analysis

A detailed statistical analysis plan will be written. Analyses will be overseen by the study investigators. Reports will include description of the primary and secondary outcomes in the cohort.