Malignant Fibrous Histiocytoma of the Head and Neck Region

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Objective
Malignant fibrous histiocytoma (MFH) represents an aggressive soft tissue sarcoma found in the head and neck region. The purpose of this study is to review the experience of a large multidisciplinary cancer center experience with this entity.

Methods
Retrospective review of MFH patients treated at a large comprehensive cancer center.

Results-continued
Overall 5-year survival for patients with MFH was 51%, with 5-year disease-specific survival of 44%. Overall survival for radiation-associated tumors was 30% yet 58% for non-radiation-associated tumors. Better survival also appeared associated with recent decade of treatment, parotid/neck tumor site, and surgery + radiation versus surgery alone or non-surgical treatment.

Conclusion
Head & neck MFH is an aggressive neoplasm characterized by local and/or distant failure and poor survival. Radiation-associated MFH are associated with particularly poor survival. Optimal treatment regimens have yet to be elucidated.