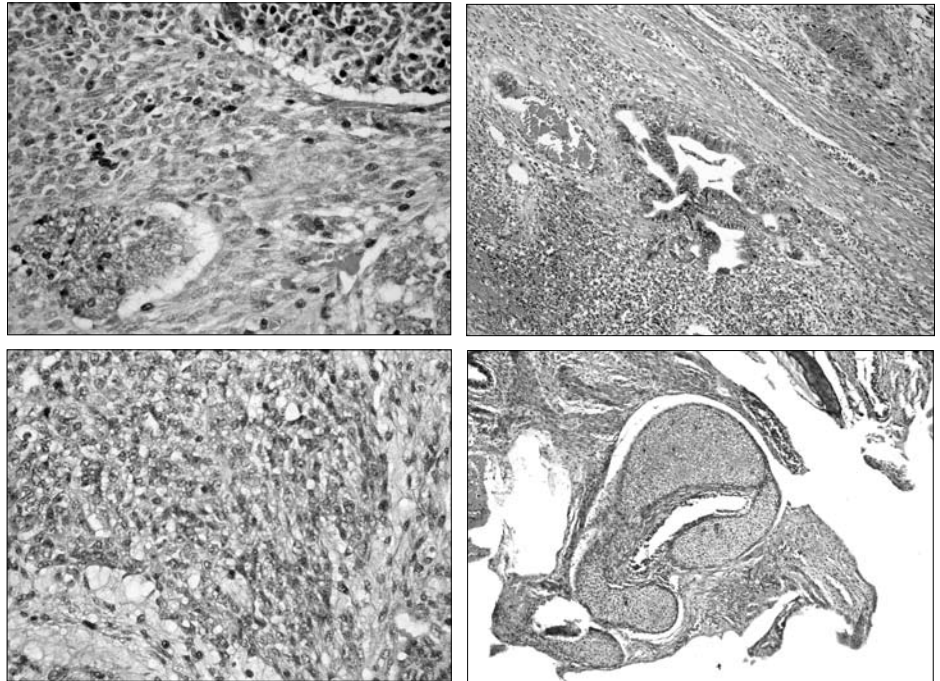


Jose M. Carnate Jr., MD

Department of Pathology
College of Medicine - Philippine General Hospital
University of the Philippines Manila

Sinonasal Teratoid Carcinosarcoma

This is from a 76-year-old male with a fungating maxillary antral mass that extends into the nasal cavity.



Sinonasal teratoid carcinosarcoma was first described in 1984 and since then 60 cases have been reported. I have had the opportunity to encounter four cases locally, the first one in 1995, another in 2003 and two cases in 2006. There is a male predominance among cases and age has ranged from 18 to 79 years. The usual symptoms reported are epistaxis and nasal obstruction while the most common physical examination finding is that of a nasal cavity mass. A closer look shows a mass at the ethmoid sinus or maxillary antrum with secondary involvement of adjacent sinuses and soft tissue. The tumor is highly malignant rapidly invading adjacent soft tissues and bone and giving rise to regional node and distant metastases. The reported average survival is 1.7 years after diagnosis, with less than 3% surviving beyond three years. Radical surgery, radiotherapy and chemotherapy have all been used with limited success. Histologic sections show a confusing array of teratomatous, sarcomatous and carcinomatous elements represented here by immature squamous and cartilaginous islands, atypical fibrosarcoma-like spindle cell stroma and infiltrating atypical adenocarcinomatous glands.

REFERENCES:

1. Heffner DK, Hyams VJ. Teratocarcinosarcoma (Malignant Teratoma?) of the nasal cavity and paranasal sinuses. *Cancer* 1984;53:2140-54.
2. Fernandez PL, Cardesa A, Alos L, Pinto J, Traserra J. Sinonasal Teratocarcinosarcoma: an unusual neoplasm. *Pathology Res Pract*. 1995 March; 191(2): 166-71; discussion 172-3.
3. Mills SE, Gaffey MJ, Frierson HF. *Atlas of Tumor Pathology. Tumors of the Upper Aerodigestive Tract and Ear*. 1997. Chapter 12: Germ Cell Tumors, pp. 314-316.
4. Deveci Sali M, Deveci Guzin. Blastomatous tumor with teratoid features of nasal cavity: report of a case and review of literature. *Pathology International*. 2000 January;50(1):71
5. WHO Classification of Tumors (Lyon, 2005): Head and Neck Tumors, Leon Barnes, ed.

Correspondence: Jose M. Carnate Jr., MD
University of the Philippines Manila
College of Medicine
Department of Pathology
547 Pedro Gil St., Ermita, Manila 1000
Phone (632) 526-4550
Fax (632) 400-3638
Email: jmcjpath@yahoo.com
Reprints will not be available from the author.