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*Original Paper*

## Survival Analysis of 81 Children with Primary Spinal Gliomas: A Population-Based Study

Jen-Ho Tseng<sup>a</sup>, Ming-Yuan Tseng<sup>b</sup><sup>a</sup>Division of Neurosurgery, Department of Surgery, National Taiwan University Hospital, Taipei, Taiwan;<sup>b</sup>Academic Department of Neurosurgery, Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, UK[Address of Corresponding Author](#)*Pediatric Neurosurgery* 2006;42:347-353 (DOI: 10.1159/000095564)**Key Words**

- Cancer Registry
- Primary spinal glioma
- Spinal tumor
- Survival analysis

**Abstract**

Primary spinal gliomas are rare. Most clinical studies are based on single centers with small numbers of patients and limited length of follow-up. Because data from the Cancer Registry cover larger numbers of patients and longer durations of follow-up, our objective was to define prognostic factors that might predict the survival at a national population level. From 1971 to 1995, data of 81 children (age <15 years) with primary spinal gliomas from the Cancer Registry of England and Wales were analyzed. Median survival and crude survival rates in respect of 7 variables (age, sex, morphology, WHO grade, socioeconomic status, geographical region, and period of diagnosis) were calculated using the Kaplan-Meier method. The Cox regression was performed for estimating hazard ratios (HR) for death. Results showed that the 1-, 5-, and 10-year crude survival rates for this population were 72.84, 60.49, and 58.0%, respectively. Both univariate and multivariate analyses revealed that only morphology (HR 2.79 for nonependymoma,  $p = 0.05$ ) and WHO grade (HR 6.74 for high grade,  $p = 0.01$ ) were significant prognostic factors. Results from this population-based study are very helpful for comparison with other

population-based studies and for public health purposes.

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 **Author Contacts**

Ming-Yuan Tseng, MD, MPhil, MSc  
Box 167, Academic Department of Neurosurgery  
Addenbrooke's Hospital, Hills Road  
Cambridge CB2 2QQ (UK)  
Tel./Fax +44 1223 410 634, E-Mail [myt22@cam.ac.uk](mailto:myt22@cam.ac.uk)

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