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FULL-TEXT ARTICLE

Twenty-Year Survival In Glioblastoma: A Case Report And Molecular Profile.

[Sperduto CM](#), [Chakravarti A](#), [Aldape K](#), [Burger P](#), [Papermaster GB](#), [Sperduto P](#).

Research Associate, Minneapolis Radiation Oncology, Minneapolis, MN.

BACKGROUND: The prognosis for patients with glioblastoma (GB) remains grim. Historically, the median survival has been 6 to 9 months. Recent research has improved the outcome slightly. A computer search of the literature reveals few long-term survivors. **METHOD:** Presented here is a case report of a 20-year survivor of GB, with pathologic review to confirm the diagnosis. A battery of molecular studies was performed to develop a molecular profile of this unique patient. **RESULTS:** The results of the molecular genetic testing for this most unusual patient were as follows: (1) methylguanine methyl transferase (MGMT) was methylated, (2) p53 positive, (3) PTEN tumor suppressor gene positive, (4) protein kinase AKT (pAKT) negative, and (5) epidermal growth factor receptor negative. **CONCLUSION:** To our knowledge, this is the longest survival of any patient in the literature whose initial diagnosis was GB. Triple-positive GBM patients (MGMT methylated, PTEN, and p53 positive) are uncommon but may be associated with a better prognosis. Further research is needed to confirm whether this molecular profile is prognostic of prolonged survival. Molecular genetics will determine future treatment and prognosis in GB.

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