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[Neurologia](#). 2010 Apr;25(3):143-147.

### Gliomatosis cerebri.

[Article in English, Spanish]

Bruna J, Velasco R.

Unidad Funcional de Neuro-Oncología, Servicio de Neurología, Hospital Universitari de Bellvitge, L'Hospitalet de Llobregat. Facultad de Medicina, Departamento de Biología celular, Fisiología e Inmunología, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Centro de Investigación en Red sobre Enfermedades Neurodegenerativas (CIBERNED), Bellaterra, Barcelona, España.

#### Abstract

**INTRODUCTION:** Gliomatosis cerebri (GC) is a rare, diffusely growing glial tumour characterized by extensive brain infiltration. The diversity of histological subtype and grade on presentation among different subjects, in addition to the usually poor response to treatment make GC an uncertain entity where many questions still remain unanswered. One article in this issue of NEUROLOGIA describes a series of 22 patients with GC, where clinical, therapeutic and outcome results are detailed. **Development:** Clinical presentation of GC is non-specific and, although the neuroimage is characteristic, the spectrum of differential diagnosis is wide. Despite the fact that known prognostic factors in glioma also seem to be involved in GC, the heterogeneity of pathology and molecular findings on biopsy samples makes it difficult to characterise GC correctly. Therefore, variability of outcome and response to therapy is the rule. Evidence on therapeutic strategies is based on case-series. According to this, the optimal treatment is not well established. Part of current research is focused on identifying molecular predictor factors of response to chemotherapy. **CONCLUSIONS:** The addition of chemotherapy in the classic treatment schedule based on radiotherapy seems to produce better responses in GC patients. However, the outcome of these patients remains poor with low survival rates. Phase III multi-centre trials to evaluate different therapeutic strategies in GC are essential. Further knowledge on the histological profile and molecular prognostic factors is also required. Patients should be stratified according to the prognostic factors identified.

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