



A fresh view

10-08-10

1.8 kg large metastasis removed.

A 64-year-old Swedish nurse (A.S.) came to Humlegaarden early May 2006 with a very large liver metastasis in the right liver lobe (18 x 14 x 12 cm), which originated from an ovarian cancer.

The patient had her uterus and ovaries removed in 1997 due to an ovarian cancer granulose cell tumor. After that, she received chemotherapy with paraplatin.

She was treated with Vepesid, platinol and bleomycin in December 1999 because of local relapse until March 2000.

In October 2003 a new relapse in the right pelvic wall and small intestine is found. This was followed by treatment with paraplatin three times and later with platinol until June 2004. In mid-February 2005 a large liver metastasis is found and the patient received platinol again three times.

In May 2005 further progression is found, now the liver metastasis is 14 cm. The patient was not offered any treatment. They could not do more for her, only giving morphine for pain, which she received during one year.

The patient came to stay at Humlegaarden 2nd May 2006. We started treatment with the mistletoe compound Helixor M, as well as our other treatments for the liver with milk thistle in high dose, local hyperthermia, rehatron etc. Our ultrasound revealed no spread from the large tumor. We were of the opinion that the tumor might be operable, meaning that it could be removed completely, although it was in close relation to a large vein (vena cava) and the middle liver vein.

We sent her home on 19th May 2006 to Kärnsjukhuset in Skövde in Sweden with the message that we felt that an operation was possible. After a year's inactivity the doctors finally accepted to send the patient to the liver team at Sahlgrenska in Gothenburg.

Here she was operated on 18th August 2006 and they removed a tumor that weighed 1.8 kilograms, which surprisingly turned out to be departing from the adrenal gland and not from the liver. It was a metastasis from the ovarian cancer.

Our last contact with patients was on 06.08.2010, where the patient and her husband were visiting Humlegaarden - five years after the patient was sent home for terminal care in Sweden. She is now very fine and says it is due to Humlegaarden's efforts.

Conclusion:

Always look at any patient with completely fresh eyes and do not hesitate to follow your own intuition.

In this case, everybody thought that the tumor was too large to be surgically removed. It was not. Surgeons can make considerably more today than ever before. That the tumor localization was quite different from the expected was an interesting detail in this casestory.