

Spine and Spinal Disorders

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Decision making in Metastatic epidural Spinal Cord compression

Metastatic epidural spinal cord compression (MESCC) is a spinal emergency with the potential for devastating consequences if not promptly diagnosed and treated. A multidisciplinary approach including medical oncology, radiation oncology, and spinal surgery is imperative. Surgery is effective in prolonging ambulation for patients by preserving neurological function; surgery may also play a role in spinal stability, pain control and local control. However surgical management is only realistic in selected patients taking into account the patient's overall condition, systemic disease and tumour biology. Radiation therapy and radiotherapy are alternative therapy options. A management paradigm with clear aims is essential to aid the decision making process.

Speaker Biography

Rafid Al-Mahfoudh is an appointed Consultant Neurosurgeon and Complex Spine Surgeon in Brighton and London. He is senior lecturer at the University of Brighton. He is one very few surgeons with dual orthopaedic and Neurosurgical spine accreditation in addition to further specialist fellowship training in anterior skull base and minimally invasive neurosurgery in Adelaide and New York. He has extensive experience in treating the full spectrum of spinal disorders, pituitary tumours and endoscopic neurosurgical techniques. He is active academically with over 40 articles in peer-reviewed journals. He has completed an MSc in Surgical Science and Practice from Oxford University. He is also reviewer for the British Journal of Neurosurgery/ Global spine journal and operative Neurosurgery. He is associate Editor for the international Journal of Surgery and member of the British association of Spine Surgeons, Society of British Neurological Surgeons and European Association of Neurological Surgeons. He has specialist interest in degenerative spine disorders, spine tumours, trigeminal neuralgia, hydrocephalus and brain tumours.

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