

## Retinoblastoma: A Retrospective Study of 27 Cases in University Hospital of Lubumbashi-DR Congo

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### ABSTRACT

We conducted a retrospective study on 27 children with retinoblastoma in the Lubumbashi University Hospital between January 2008 and October 2012. All cases were diagnosed clinically and 11 cases were confirmed by histology. Sixteen children (59.3%) were male and 11 female (40.7%). Unilateral involvement of the eye was noticed in 24 patients (88.9%) and bilateral in 3 cases (11.1%). The average age was  $3 \pm 1.4$  years in girls and  $3.3 \pm 1.9$  years in boys. Eight patients (29.6%) were treated by surgery only, 3 went through surgery plus chemotherapy (11.1%) and 7 patients (25.9%) were treated by chemotherapy only. Nine patients (33.3%) did not receive any specific treatment.

The follow-up of patients made in 2013 reported complete remission in 2 patients (7.4%), partial remission in 3 patients (11.1%), recurrence in 2 patients (7.4%), 10 patients (37%) were dead and 10 (37%) were lost from view. Our study indicates the need for early diagnosis and special care to improve the prognosis of retinoblastoma in DRC.

**Keywords:** Retinoblastoma, Diagnosis, Prognosis, Follow-up

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