

# A pilot study of physician personal preferences for treatment of glioblastoma

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Dear Editor,

Most studies that examine the notion of gross total resection (GTR) in glioblastoma treatment are conducted with the assumption that extended survival is universally desirable [2]. There are limited data in terms of how such survival benefits should be weighed against the risk of the surgery and the impact of surgical morbidity on the patient's quality of life [1].

To study this issue, we designed a survey entitled "Putting yourself in your patient's shoes: a pilot study of physician personal preferences for treatment of glioblastoma" (U.C.S.D. institutional review board protocol no. 151821), where we survey physician members who have cared for glioblastoma patients. These physicians are well-acquainted with the consequences of surgery performed for glioblastoma located in different regions. We pose the question of whether the respondent would elect for GTR if s/he were afflicted with glioblastoma located in the right frontal lobe, right hemisphere, left hemisphere, or the posterior corpus callosum. Information on physician age, marital status, medical specialty (neurosurgery, neuro-oncology, medical oncology, neuroradi-

ology, neuropathology or radiation oncology), years of practice, and personal values will be collected.

We would like to make neurosurgeons in Europe aware of this study, and to invite them to take part in it. We hope this study will give us more insight into our own preferences as physicians, when faced with the decision we counsel our patients on how to make on a daily basis.

To participate in the study please go to the following webpage by 31 October 2016: [http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Eu\\_preference\\_GBM](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Eu_preference_GBM).

## References

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