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Title: Experience with lung neuroendocrine tumors in three Portuguese hospitals

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Body: Introduction: Lung neuroendocrine tumors (NET) are rare and heterogeneous, with wide range of aggressiveness. Aim: Describe clinical and epidemiologic characteristics, stage, treatment and survival of patients with lung NET according to histological group -[typical carcinoid (TC), atypical carcinoid (AT), large cell neuroendocrine carcinoma (NEC). Methods: Retrospective longitudinal, multicenter study analyzing files of patients diagnosed with NET from 2005 to 2010. Small cell carcinoma was excluded. Comparisons among groups were done with X^2. Survival curves were generated using Kaplan-Meier method. Results: 137 patients were included, mean age (SD) 59 (± 14) years; 71 (52%) male; 82 (60%) non-smokers. Histological classification: 54 TC, 49 NEC and 34 AC. Table below describes patients' characteristics. Follow-up ranged from 1 to 78 months. Twenty seven patients (20%) died, 1 in TC, 2 in AC, 23 in NEC. The median overall survival (OS) calculated for NEC was 42 months, for other patients median OS has not yet been reached. Conclusion: In our series few patients were asymptomatic, none had carcinoid syndrome and most had symptoms other than those due to endobronchial involvement, which was found in less than 50% pts. Most frequent histological pattern was TC. NEC was most aggressive, with more advanced stage and a higher mortality. Surgery was the most frequent treatment. Prognosis is generally good, although follow-up is still short.