

## **Alveolar Soft Part Sarcoma**

The alveolar soft part sarcoma is a high-grade round cell sarcoma affecting young adults between the ages of 15 and 35 years, with a predominance for females. The tumor usually arises from deep muscle tissue in the lower extremities, most commonly in the thigh. This tumor is a slow-growing lesion that carries a very poor prognosis because of a high potential for pulmonary metastases. It is felt to originate from neurogenic stem cells, however, its histological appearance is similar to that of the alveolar variant of the rhabdomyosarcoma. Treatment usually consists of an attempt at wide resection followed by postoperative radiation therapy, if the margins are positive, and chemotherapy because of the high incidence of pulmonary metastases. The overall survival rate is approximately 50 per cent at five years.