Abstract: In malignant urogenital tumors, tissue oxygenation is compromised and very heterogeneous, with steep and fluctuating spatio-temporal oxygen gradients signaling a complex instability in tumor oxygenation (complex “4D-heterogeneity”). Tumor hypoxia is highly dynamic, and rapidly changing \( pO(2) \) gradients may be key factors driving hypoxia-dependent adaptive processes leading to malignant progression. The grand median oxygen tension in malignant urogenital tumors is 7-11 mmHg. In contrast, benign leiomyomas of the uterus are severely, but uniformly, hypoxic with only shallow oxygen gradients (“static hypoxia”). In these benign tumors, the median \( pO(2) \) is 1 mmHg and signs of hypoxia-driven processes are missing.
Onkologie

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