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A case report of spinal paraganglioma

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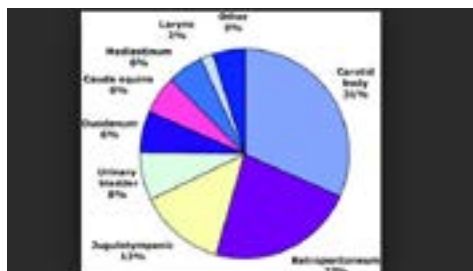
Introduction: Spinal paragangliomas are neuroendocrine tumors of the extra adrenal paraganglionic system. It is a neuro ectodermal tumor which originates from the neural crest cells, affecting the region of the carotid or jugular tympanic artery. These tumors are very rarely encountered in adolescents and adults. They occur quite infrequently in the spinal canal, if it occurs, it usually presents as an intradural tumor within the cauda equina.

Case Report: We present a case of 41 year old female having spinal paraganglioma which developed in thoracic and lumbar segments of spinal cord. The patient complained of pain in lower back and giddiness for 15 days with sensory and motor deficit in both lower limbs. Magnetic resonance imaging lumbosacral spine revealed an isotense lesion at left aspect of D5 vertebral body and neural arch for which posterior stabilisation and decompression D4 – D6 with tumor removal done and histopathology revealed it to be a paraganglioma. The histopathological study showed the zell ballen pattern.

Conclusion: Even though paraganglioma is relatively rare, it should be considered in the differential diagnosis of spinal tumors. Due to the same features of their clinical, radiological and histopathology to schwannoma and ependymoma, diagnosis should be done on closely correlating the clinical, radiological and pathological findings. There is recurrence potential of paraganglioma so total precision excision is the best option to achieve cure and to reduce the chance of recurrence.

Recent Publications

1. Trisha Banik, Shanmugasamy K, Anandraj Vaithyanathan, Dhananjay S Kotasthane (2018) Cytomorphology of breast lesions with historadiological correlation in a tertiary care centre of Puducherry. IP Archives of Cytology and Histopathology Research 3(1):1-6.



Biography

Trisha Banik has completed her MBBS at KPC Medical College, Kolkata and Masters in Pathology at Mahatma Gandhi Medical College and Research Institute. She has worked as a uunior resident with IPGME&RSSKM (PG) Hospital and also published papers on "Cytomorphology of breast lesions with historadiological correlation in a tertiary care centre of Puducherry." Currently, she has taken up an assignment which shall very shortly result in her to take up an Assistant Professorship in Pathology at JIMS Hospital, Kolkata, India. Notwithstanding her academic background, she is also trained in Indian Classical dancing.

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