

Pure intrasellar meningioma located under the pituitary gland: A Case Report

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Abstract: Meningioma are mostly benign intracranial tumor, Subglandular meningiomas located under pituitary gland are extremely rare. Intrasellar meningiomas in the subglandular and sub diaphragmatic region originate from dura in sellar floor. Here we reported a case of intrasellar meningioma located under pituitary gland resected trans nasally trans sphenoidal. Its clinically and radiologically mimicking with pituitary macroadenoma. It's important to distinguish preoperatively by using contrast enhancement on MRI for proper surgical approach.

Keywords: Meningioma, intracranial tumor, pituitary macroadenoma.

INTRODUCTION

Meningiomas are mostly benign tumor originating from the arachnoid cap cell[1]. In 1997 Nozalki *et al* describe sub diaphragmatic intrasellar meningiomas that originated from sella turcica two of which only originated from the floor of sella turcica[2].

Since very few case of intrasellar meningioma from the sellar floor has been reported in the literature.

Although meningiomas can originate from anywhere in the sella turcica but sub glandular meningiomas are extremely rare[3], we reported case of intra sellar meningiomas mimicking pituitary macro adenoma both radiologically and clinically we could remove the entire tumor via Transphenoidal Trans nasally approach.

CASE REPORT

42 year female admitted to our hospital with headache since 3 year over frontal area and occasional vomiting without visual symptoms and memory disturbance.

On the general physical examination she was vitally stable, conscious oriented and where other neurological examination revealed no abnormality. Routine lab investigation were unremarkable, endocrinological examination were normal, GH -0.246 (normal 0.1-5.2), S cortisol -4.97. Visual field examination revealed no abnormality.

MRI brain revealed the widening of the sella with pituitary gland enlargement measuring 16.6/15.3/18 mm there is evidence of suprasellar extension with optic chiasm appearing compressed and lifted up. Post contrast with heterogeneous

enhancement suggestive pituitary macro adenoma with suprasellar and parasellar extension.

Patient underwent trans nasal, trans sphenoidal excision of pituitary tumor, tumor was entirely removed.

Histopathological and immunohistochemical report cell arrange in sheath fascicle and neoplastic cell are round to oval with nuclear enlargement and about eosinophilic cytoplasm cell border indistinct. Vascularity is prominent with pseudo papillary pattern one fragments shows fascicle of spindle suggestive meningioma.

On immune histochemistry-vimentin and EMA-positive, synphophysin and MIB-low and Suggestive of meningioma sellar region.



Fig-1: Pre operative sagittal cut T2 wedge

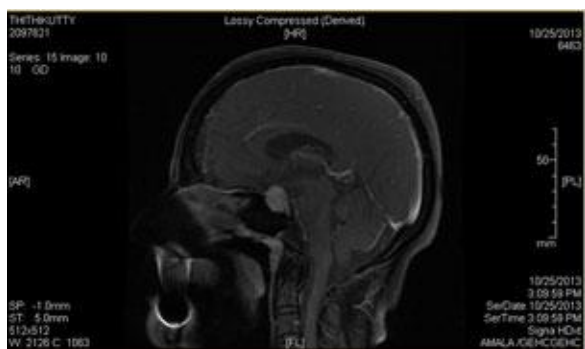


Fig-2: Pre operative T1 contrast image

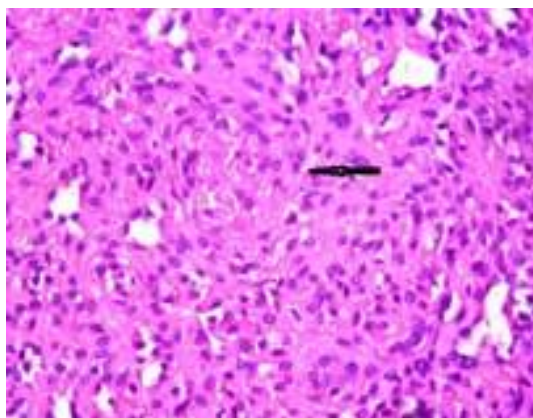


Fig-3: Histopathological slide (H&E)

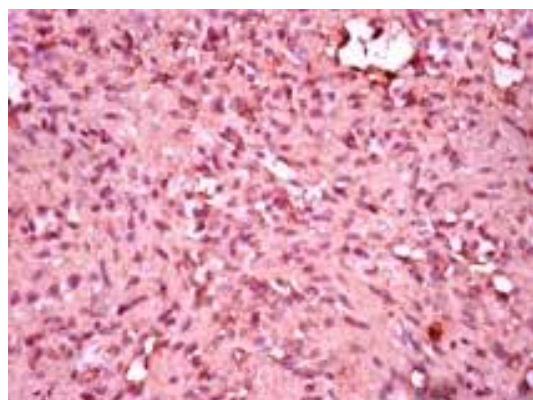


Fig-4: Histopathological slide, vimentin

DISCUSSION :-

Meningiomas can originate from any dural surface, whereas 10%-15% of meningiomas arise in parasellar region purely intra sellar meningiomas are rare [1,3].

The majority of intrasellar meningiomas arise from under surface of diaphragma sellae but meningiomas originate from the or wall of sella have been reported.

In 1995 Kinjo *et al* [4], classified diaphragma sellae tumor according to site of origin from the diaphragm

Type A – originated from upper leaf of diaphragma sellae anterior to the pituitary stalk.

Type B – from the upper leaf of the diaphragma sellae post to pituitary stalk.

Type C – inferior leaf of the diaphragma sellae.

Intra sellar meningiomas may mimic non functioning adenoma in their clinical presentation with primary symptoms being headache, visual disturbances, visual field defect and endocrinological abnormalities. Cases of an interstellar meningiomas mimicking pituitary apoplexy have been reported [3].

Similarly our patient had only headache and no other compression effect on optic nerve and pituitary gland. It is important to differentiate a diaphragma sellae intra and supra sellar meningiomas from the pituitary macroadenoma because they required different surgical approach. Craniotomy for meningiomas and transphenoidal route for most pituitary adenoma [5].

Cappabianca *et al*, emphasized that most of the intra and suprasellar macroadenomas could be approached by transphenoidal route while diaphragma sellar meningioma might require a craniotomy [5].

Kinjo *et al* suggested the transcranial transphenoidal approach because of its wider exposure and safer hemostasis [4].

Jallo B Benjamin suggested a pterional craniotomy with microsurgical dissection [6].

Watanabe *et al* [7], Nagao *et al* [8], Abelpinzer *et al* [9], reported intra and suprasellar meningioma. In all these cases similar to our case preoperative diagnosis was pituitary adenoma but after histopathological examination revealed the meningiomas.

Presentation of our patient only had headache and vomiting while above cases had compression symptoms on optic nerve and pituitary gland. First surgical approach in all these cases similar to our case was transnasal transphenoidal and we could resect the entire meningiomas in first operation.

Purely intrasellar meningiomas can be extremely difficult to distinguish from adenoma.

Even enhancement characteristics of a pituitary adenoma and meningiomas on CT and MRI may be similar but the enhancement profile of meningiomas may aid in distinguishing them from adenoma as adenoma generally enhance less intensely and more heterogeneously than meningiomas and demonstrate a longer time to peak enhancement on dynamic imaging.

The presence of an enhancing dural tail is not a feature of intrasellar meningiomas. The visualization of CSF cleft between tumor and gland is uncommon, another finding which favors meningioma is hyperostosis of the floor of sella or bony structure [10].

Prominent vessel may be seen approximate 65 % sellar meningiomas these high degree of vascularity of most meningiomas predisposes to excessive intra operative bleeding during resection which is generally more easily controlled by transcranial approach. And being helpful in reducing intra operative blood loss.

Thus careful examination of enhanced high quality thin section sagittal or coronal MRI of parasellar region will allow the correct pre operative diagnosis in patient with any these tumor, additional using angiographically can more helpful for distinguish between these tumor[11].

CONCLUSION

Intrasellar meningiomas are extremely rare and easily confuse with pituitary macroadenomas having similar in clinical symptoms and radiological and endocrinological finding.

Many of author believe pre operative distinguish of these tumor is necessary for selecting appropriated surgical approach.

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