Intraventricular ependymoma

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Abstract

The aim was to describe intraventricular ependymoma, characterizing the clinical picture, with special emphasis on the case of a young woman who died of intracranial hypertension due to the obstruction of the ventricular system. The patient was a 32-year-old woman, presented with a 6-month history of headache, vomiting, and memory loss, followed by severe nausea and vomiting, altered mental status, and severe headache. On examination, she was found to have a raised intracranial pressure, bilateral papilledema, left hemiparesis, and left hemianopia. MRI showed a large mass lesion in the left lateral ventricle, causing obstructive hydrocephalus. The mass was resected, and histopathological examination revealed an intraventricular ependymoma. The patient died 3 days after surgery due to intracranial hypertension.

Introduction

Intraventricular ependymomas are rare and can be challenging to diagnose, particularly in children. They are typically located in the lateral ventricles and can cause obstructive hydrocephalus. The classic triad of symptoms includes headaches, nausea, and vomiting. Imaging studies, such as MRI, are crucial in diagnosing these tumors. The natural history of these tumors is variable, with some tumors growing slowly and others progressing rapidly.

2 Methods and Materials

2.1 Clinical Findings

In the current case, the patient presented with symptoms consistent with obstructive hydrocephalus. Imaging studies were crucial in diagnosing the tumor, and histopathological examination confirmed the diagnosis of intraventricular ependymoma.

2.2 Treatment

The mainstay of treatment for intraventricular ependymomas is surgical resection, followed by adjuvant therapy if necessary. The prognosis depends on the location and size of the tumor, as well as the patient's age and overall health.

3 Conclusion

Intraventricular ependymomas are rare but can be life-threatening if left untreated. Early diagnosis and prompt intervention are crucial to improve outcomes.

References
