A Case Report of $C_1$ Ventral Root Schwannoma Manifesting as Foramen Magnum Syndrome

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Abstract

Introduction: Schwannoma is a nerve sheath tumor originates from Schwann cells, with slow growth and usually benign. Spinal schwannomas almost arises from dorsal (sensory) root. $C_1$ ventral root schwannomas which limited to the anterior part of medullospinal junction is extremely rare. These tumors may extend to foramen magnum and manifest as foramen magnum syndrome.

Case History: This report is presented a 60-years old female with cervical and occipital pain, spastic quadriaparesis and dissociative sensory loss. Cervical MRI demonstrated an extramedullary intradural tumor in anterior part of foramen magnum. $C_{1-2}$ Posterior midline suboccipital laminectomy with spinal cord decompression was performed. After surgery, her symptoms improved. Histopathological evaluation revealed schwannoma.

Symptoms of foramen magnum syndrome are various and

Conclusion: Nonspecific, so diagnosis requires a high suspician in early stages, when tumor resection may lead to significant improvement of the patients.

Keywords: Schwannoma / Ventral Root / Foramen Magnum / Suboccipital Craniectomy

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