A 42-year-old man presented with a tense, tender 24-cm cranial lump in the left face and frontal-temporal-parietal region (figure, A and B). Slow growth and limited local medical resources delayed presentation for care. Firm subcutaneous nodules were observed in other locations. A diagnosis of neurofibromatosis type 1-like syndrome was made; confirmatory genetic testing was not performed. The 5-kg tumor was completely excised surgically, including an intracranial portion that grew through an orbital-frontal cranial defect. Histologic examination revealed a neurofibroma (figure, C). After 4 years of follow-up, besides the removed left eye damaged by the tumor, he had a satisfactory recovery.

X. Zhang, MD, PhD, X. Mao, MD, PhD, W. Zhang, MD, PhD, J. Zhang, MD, PhD, W. Cao, MD, PhD, Shaanxi, PR China

Author contributions: Xiang Zhang: design of the study, statistical analysis, and writing. Xinggang Mao: analysis of the data. Wei Zhang: drafting the manuscript. Jianning Zhang: revising the manuscript. Weidong Cao: interpretation of the data.

Disclosure: The authors report no disclosures.

Correspondence & reprint requests to Dr. Xiang Zhang: xzhang@fmmu.edu.cn


Giant head neurofibroma
Neurology 2012;78;71
DOI 10.1212/WNL.0b013e31823ed117