A giant dumbbell-shaped primitive neuroectodermal tumor in the brain

A 5-year-old girl presented with an 8 × 10-cm dumbbell-shaped mass in her left occipitoparietal region (figure 1). A preoperative CT angiogram demonstrated a large subcutaneous mass with abundant blood vessels (figure 2A). MRI revealed a giant extracranial–intracranial space-occupying lesion (figure 2, B–D). After endovascular embolization, we resected the tumor (figure 2E). The postoperative pathologic diagnosis was primitive neuroectodermal tumor (figure 2F). Primitive neuroectodermal tumor extension to the brain is rare; imaging is not pathognomonic and requires confirmation by pathology. Early intervention is preferable.

Figure 2  Neuroimaging

(A) Preoperative CT angiogram showing the skull involvement and superficial blood supply of the mass. (B–D) Preoperative MRI showing the intracranial involvement of the same tumor. (E) Gross specimen of the resected tumor. (F) Pathologic image of the tumor (hematoxylin & eosin, ×400).
Translate Today’s Discoveries into Tomorrow’s Clinic at 2017 Breakthroughs in Neurology Conference


WriteClick® rapid online correspondence

Have a comment on a recent Neurology® article you would like to share? Now it is easier and more convenient. Neurology.org has launched WriteClick on the home page and sidebars of each article to encourage remarks and debate among users.

WriteClick is restricted to comments about studies published in Neurology within the last eight weeks.

Learn more at Neurology.org/letters

20 Minutes Pack a Punch

Neurology® Podcasts

• Interviews with top experts on new clinical research in neurology
• Editorial comments on selected articles
• Convenient—listen during your commute, at your desk, or even at the gym
• On demand—it’s there when you want it
• Fun and engaging
• New topic each week
• FREE

Listen now at www.aan.com/podcast
A giant dumbbell-shaped primitive neuroectodermal tumor in the brain
Zhi Gang Lan, Mao Jun Chen, Jin Li, et al.

Neurology 2016;87;2495-2496
DOI 10.1212/WNL.0000000000003411

This information is current as of December 5, 2016