Primary Melanocytoma Arising From Trigeminal Nerve

Author(s):

Jun Liu, MD; Wenjun Zhang, MD; Xinyun Ye, MD; Si Zhang, MD; Qiuhua Jiang, MD

Corresponding Author:

Qiuhua Jiang, jiangqh1968@126.com

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Affiliation Information for All Authors: 1. Department of Neurosurgery, Ganzhou Hospital of Nanchang University, Ganzhou, Jiangxi, China; 2. Department of Recovery Medicine, Ganzhou Hospital of Nanchang University, Ganzhou, Jiangxi, China; 3. Department of Neurosurgery, West China Hospital of Sichuan University, Chengdu, Sichuan, China.

Equal Author Contribution:
These authors contributed equally to this work.

Contributions:
Jun Liu: Drafting/revision of the manuscript for content, including medical writing for content
Wenjun Zhang: Drafting/revision of the manuscript for content, including medical writing for content
Xinyun Ye: Drafting/revision of the manuscript for content, including medical writing for content
Si Zhang: Study concept or design
Qiuhua Jiang: Drafting/revision of the manuscript for content, including medical writing for content; Study concept or design
A 12-year-old girl presented with a 3-week history of left-sided hemifacial pain. Physical examination revealed hemifacial numbness, hypoesthesia and chewing weakness without signs of Nevus of Ota. Neuroradiologic examinations showed a dumbbell-shaped lesion in middle and posterior fossa along the distribution of trigeminal nerve (Figure 1). Intraoperatively, a well-defined black extra-axial lesion firmly attached to trigeminal nerve was observed. Pathological examination confirmed a melanocytoma (Figure 2). Extra-axial melanocytoma may have a tendency to distribute along trigeminal nerve similar to Nevus of Ota. For lesions involving trigeminal nerve with hyperdensity on CT and hyperintensity on T1, hypointensity in T2 imaging, melanocytoma should be considered.¹

Reference


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Figure legends

Figure 1 Radiological findings

CT demonstrated a well defined, hyperdense mass in middle and posterior fossa (A). MRI revealed the tumor was characterized by hyperintensity on T1-weighted imaging (B) and hypointensity on T2-weighted imaging (C). Enhanced MRI showed heterogeneous enhancement (D).
Figure 2 Pathological Images

HE staining section showed nodular hyperplasia of melanin-rich cells (A). Immunohistochemical staining of Melan-A (B), S-100 (C), Vimentin (D) were positive. Original magnification $\times 100$. (A, B, C, and D).
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