Cavernoma of the Hypothalamus

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ABSTRACT

Intracranial cavernoma is a relatively rare condition. Cavernoma of the hypothalamus is even rarer. We report a case of hypothalamic cavernoma presenting with ptosis.

Key Words: Brain neoplasms; Cerebral hemorrhage; Hemangioma, cavernous

CASE REPORT

A 32-year-old woman presented with a one-month history of right-sided ptosis in June 2008. She had no other neurological symptoms such as visual disturbances, seizures, headaches, weakness, or sensory loss. Moreover, there was no history of nausea or vomiting.

An ophthalmology review revealed a 1-mm ptosis of the right eye, no ophthalmoplegia and no visual field defect. Her pupils were equal and reactive. Fundoscopy examination yielded nil abnormal.


Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) [0.35T, Magnetom C; Siemens, AG, Erlangen, Germany] was performed, and showed a suprasellar mass arising from the hypothalamic region, posterior to the optic chiasm (Figure 1). The optic chiasm was displaced superiorly (Figure 2) and the pituitary stalk was displaced to the left. This mass demonstrated reticulated cores of low and high signal intensity consistent with areas of blood products (haemorrhagic) surrounded by a hypointense haemosiderin rim on T2-weighted images (T2WI). No significant enhancement was evident in the post-contrast scan. The pituitary gland was otherwise normal. Based

Chinese abstract

下丘腦海綿狀血管瘤

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顱內海綿狀血管瘤較為罕見，下丘腦海綿狀血管瘤更極為罕有。本文報告一宗出現眼皮下垂的下丘腦海綿狀血管瘤的病例。