Introduction

Hemangiopericytoma (HPC) accounts for less than 2% of soft tissue sarcomas, and it is a vascular tumor more frequently seen in retroperitoneum, hips, and thighs of children.\(^1\)\(^-\)\(^3\) Intracranial HPC is rare and can have clinical features resembling meningioma.\(^4\) Intracranial HPC accounts for 0.4% of primary central nervous system (CNS) tumors; it is generally localized in supratentorial region.\(^2\)\(^,\)\(^3\) The World Health Organization (WHO) considers it a grade 2 tumor. It is known as mesenchymal tumor with malignant potential.\(^6\)

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Summary

Hemangiopericytoma (HPC) can originate in capillary pericytes of any part of the body. It is a rare vascular tumor, mostly seen in retroperitoneal space, hips, and thighs. Based on clinical and radiological findings, it is difficult to distinguish supratentorial intracranial HPC from meningiomas. Intracranial HPC accounts for 0.4% of all primary central nervous system (CNS) tumors. The World Health Organization (WHO) classified it as grade 2 tumor, and mesenchymal tumors are characterized as having variable malignant potential. Meningeal HPC is an extremely rare tumor, usually found in supratentorial location. Meningioma should be considered in differential diagnosis. Definitive diagnosis is made with histopathological analysis after surgery. In the present report, clinical and pathological features of a 37-year-old male patient who presented with meningeal HPC are described. This case is presented because of the scarcity of such instances in the literature.

Keywords: Brain tumor; hemangiopericytoma; meningioma; supratentorial.
Case Report

A 37-year-old male patient presented at clinic with complaints of progressive headache and generalized tonic-clonic convulsions. Neurological examination was unremarkable. On cranial magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), extracranial mass lesion with peripheral intense edema measuring 42x28x35 mm that diffusely retained contrast media was seen localized in left frontoparietal junction (Figure 1a, b). Surgery was performed with initial diagnosis of meningioma. Mass was totally excised with its dura. Duraplasty was performed using galea graft. No intra- or postoperative complications developed.

Histopathological examination revealed tumoral hypervascular mass consisting of randomly scattered monotonous cells with round-oval nuclei and thin wall which appear as clefts. Tumoral cells had fine chromatin structure and small nuclei with indistinct cytoplasmic contours. No prominent cytological atypia or necrosis was found. A 4/10 BBA mitosis was detected. On histochemical examination, patchy areas stained with CD34 antibody and B cell lymphoma/leukemia gene-2 (Bcl-2) were found, while epithelial membrane antigen (EMA), and 5–100 protein positivity were not observed. Based on these findings, tumor was diagnosed as HPC grade 2 (Figure 2a-c).

Patient later underwent radiotherapy, and in postoperative third year had experienced no disease recurrence.

Discussion

HPC was first defined by Stout and Murray in 1942, and it has been suggested that HPC may derive from Zimmermann pericytes. Meningeal HPC was first

Figure 1. (a) On preoperative T1- weighted contrast-enhanced magnetic resonance examination performed on axial plane, an extraaxial mass measuring 42x28x35 mm with a diffuse peripheral edema localized on the left frontoparietal junction is seen (b) T1-weighted contrast-enhanced magnetic resonance examination performed on axial plane demonstrates an extraaxial mass lesion.

Figure 2. (a) Tumor consists of monotonous cells with hypervascular thin wall, and round-oval nuclei (H-E, x200). (b) Patchy areas of CD34 positivity in tumor cells (immunohistochemistry, x100). (c) Tumor cells were not stained with EMA dye (immunohistochemistry x200).
described by Begg and Garret in 1954. [8–10]

Meningeal HPCs are generally seen in young people, with equal distribution between genders. [11] Symptoms vary with anatomical location of tumors. Frequently, no calcification is present. Because of adjacency to dura and small size, it resembles meningioma; however, meningioma and HPC are completely different pathologies.

HPC grows gradually and leads a painless course because of its soft tissue involvement. [12] It is usually devoid of any capsule, however encapsulated cases have been also reported. [3, 4, 7] Microscopic evaluation reveals diffuse reticulin fibers and abundant number of large, well-circumscribed cells with little cytoplasm. [12]

In cases with meningeal HPC, generally, surgical excision is the preferred method for both diagnostic and therapeutic purposes. Some cases have responded satisfactorily to postoperative radiotherapy. However, without surgery, pericytoma usually responds poorly to chemotherapy and radiotherapy. [11] Postoperative radiotherapy may be desirable due to its survival prolongation effects. Pericytoma frequently metastasizes to liver, lungs, and musculoskeletal system. [11] Meningeal HPC is a very rarely seen tumor, generally localized in supratentorial region. Meningioma should be considered in differential diagnosis. Definitive diagnosis is based on postoperative histopathological analyses.

Conflict of interest
None declared.

References