

Brain Metastasis as a Rare Presentation of Neuroblastoma: A Case Report

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Abstract

Neuroblastoma is the most common extracranial tumor; originate from primordial neural crest cells that commonly give rise to adrenal medulla and the sympathetic ganglia. Children with neuroblastoma can present a wide variety of organ involvement. Rarely the patient may show brain involvement. The patient is an 8-year-old girl who was presented with bone pain and low-grade fever, three years ago, and was diagnosed as a case of neuroblastoma in adrenal gland. Two episode of abdominal surgery was done for mass resection separately and chemotherapy was started according to available protocols. She was resistant to chemotherapy and chemotherapy protocols were changed due to disease refractoriness. The patient developed with decreased level of consciousness and generalized tonic colonic convulsion. Physical examination revealed an unconscious patient with temperature of 38 ^{o}C (orally), blood pressure of 90/65 mm Hg, upward gaze, tonic colonic movement of upper and lower extremities. In brain MRI, a cystic mass measuring 32 ×11 mm in right occipital lobe with rim enhancement and 11×7 mm enhancing mass in periventricular of right lateral ventricle was detected. In addition, another enhancing mass lesion measuring 16×13 mm adjacent to right superior cerebellar peduncle and multiple enhancing nodules in cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) space were noted. The above findings were in favor of cerebrospinal fluid and brain parenchymal metastasis. Neurosurgical intervention was done for her, and drainage of large lesions was done. CSF cytology was positive for malignancy in favor of metastasis. Bone marrow aspiration was done and in favor of bone marrow involvement by small blue round cells and revealed metastatic spreading to this site. The patient received Topotecan- based chemotherapy and her condition improved. In neuroblastoma patients presenting with neurologic signs and symptoms the possibility of brain metastasis should be considered and further evaluation may be warranted, though this possibility is rare.

Biography

Mehrpour Moradi has completed his MD from Tehran Azad University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran and pediatrician degree from Shiraz University of Medical Sciences, Shiraz, Iran. He has Fellowship in pediatric Hematology and Oncology. He has published more than four papers in reputed journals.

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