

PP41**Giant mediastinal tumor with epidural extension: two case reports**

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Aim: To show clinical aspects and surgical outcome of two cases of giant benign mediastinal tumors with intraspinal extension.

Case Reports: The first case is a 11-month old girl who presented progressive spastic paraparesis. MRI showed a 6x4 cm large tumoral mass in the posterior mediastinum with intraspinal extension through foramina Th4 to Th9. The lesion was completely excised in one single session through a combined laminotomy and anterolateral thoracotomy. The histological diagnosis was lipoblastoma. Postoperatively the motoric functions improved significantly and there were no postoperative spinal deformities.

The second case is a 3-years old girl with accidentally finding of a 6x9 cm large, dumbbell-shaped tumor mass in the right posterior mediastinum with intraspinal extension through the foramen Th7. Also in this case a combined laminotomy and thoracotomy allowed complete removal of the tumor in one single session. Histological diagnosis in this case was ganglioneuroma. No postoperative deficits were observed.

Conclusion: The treatment of choice for mediastinal tumors that extend into the spinal canal through neural foramina is radical excision. This can be successfully achieved in one single surgical session with a combined neurosurgical and thoracic approach.