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Aggressive rhabdoid meningioma: case report

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Meningiomas are the most common primary intracranial tumors. They are usually benign and slowly growing; however may show a histological aggressivity categorizing them into the grade II or III of World Health Organization (WHO) classification. Rhabdoid meningioma (RM) is an uncommon meningioma variant categorized as WHO grade III. The clinical course of RM is determined by local recurrences, invasion of adjacent brain and/or dura, widespread leptomeningeal dissemination, remote metastases and fatal clinical outcome. Here in we report a 17 year-old girl with recurrent aggressive left occipital parasagittal region RM who declined radiation treatment initially. The tumor was resected four times in 5 years. Histopathological examination revealed a rhabdoid meningioma with metaplastic, papillary and chordoid differentiation. Six months after her fourth operation she the patient died of progressive disease. RM is a rare subtype of malignant meningioma and the role of different adjuvant therapeutic options are still unknown. Clinical presentation, radiological features and pathologic findings of this uncommon tumor are discussed.

Keywords: meningioma; rhabdoid; metaplastic; papillary; radiotherapy.