

· 临床病理报告 ·

少见的脊髓脑室外神经细胞瘤临床病理分析

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【摘要】 研究背景 脑室外神经细胞瘤是新近分类的肿瘤实体,可发生于中枢神经系统除脑室外的任何部位,但发生于脊髓者极为少见。由于缺乏特征性影像学表现,术前难以明确诊断;又因其组织形态学和免疫组织化学表型的相似性,易误诊为好发于脊髓的其他肿瘤。鉴于此,本文着重探讨原发于脊髓的脑室外神经细胞瘤的临床病理学特征,并通过对以往文献的复习,分析其诊断要点,以期提高临床对脑室外神经细胞瘤的鉴别诊断能力。**方法与结果** 男性患者,47岁。因近1年进行性双上肢无力和颈部疼痛入院。颈部MRI显示脊髓C₆~T₃节段髓内占位性病变,T₁WI呈等或低信号、T₂WI呈高信号,增强后病灶呈不均匀强化。术中可见肿瘤位于脊髓内,无包膜,与周围组织分界清楚,血运丰富,与硬脊膜无粘连。肿瘤组织由弥漫片状或团簇状分布的肿瘤细胞构成,部分区域肿瘤细胞呈圆形,大小形态较一致,有核周空晕,呈少突胶质细胞瘤样特点;部分区域肿瘤细胞排列较致密,呈短梭形,无核周空晕,呈放射状排列或围绕在血管周围形成不典型“菊形团”结构,类似室管膜瘤样结构。肿瘤组织中未见无核神经纤维岛和神经节样细胞,以及核分裂象和出血坏死。免疫组织化学染色显示两种形态肿瘤细胞弥漫性强阳性表达突触素,灶性表达神经元特异性烯醇化酶、S-100蛋白和少突胶质细胞转录因子-2,但不表达波形蛋白、细胞角蛋白、上皮膜原、神经元核抗原和胶质纤维酸性蛋白,Ki-67抗原标记指数<1%。病理诊断为脊髓脑室外神经细胞瘤。**结论** 脊髓脑室外神经细胞瘤临床罕见,可能起源于胚胎时期脊髓中央管周围的神经元前体细胞,须经组织学观察明确诊断。尽管大多数脑室外神经细胞瘤患者肿瘤全切除后预后良好,但出现不典型组织学表现者建议术后辅助放射治疗以减少复发。应注意与具有透明细胞特征、室管膜瘤样特征及其他具有相似组织学结构的脊髓肿瘤相鉴别。

【关键词】 神经细胞瘤; 脑室; 脊髓; 免疫组织化学; 病理学

A clinicopathological analysis of unusual extraventricular neurocytoma of spinal cord

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【Abstract】 **Background** Extraventricular neurocytoma (EVN) is an unusual tumor and has been recently accepted as a new brain tumor entity by World Health Organization (WHO) classification. It has been reported in several locations outside the typical supratentorial ventricular system, including the cerebral hemispheres, cerebellum, pons, spinal cord, cauda equine and retina. Only a few cases have been described in the spinal cord in the literature. It is a diagnostic challenge for clinicians and histopathologists to differentiate EVN from other spinal tumors because of its similarities in histological and immunohistochemical findings, as well as its non-specific radiological manifestation. Herein we describe a case of unusual intramedullary EVN in spinal cord. The clinicopathology of this tumor and its differential diagnosis are discussed. **Methods** The clinical manifestation of a patient with primary EVN occurring C₆–T₃ level of spinal cord was presented retrospectively. Gross totally resected mass was routinely paraffin-embedded and stained with hematoxylin and eosin. Dako EnVision immunohistochemical staining system was used to detect the tumor antigen expressions, including vimentin (Vim), cytokeratin (CK), epithelial membrane antigen (EMA), glial fibrillary acidic protein (GFAP), S-100 protein (S-100), synaptophysin (Syn), chromogranin (CgA), neuron-specific enolase (NSE), Neuronal nuclei (NeuN), oligodendrocytes transcription factor-2 (Oligo-2) and Ki-67. **Results** A 47-year-old male patient presented with 1 year history of weakness in both upper limbs associated with an increasing neck back pain. There was no paraesthesia in

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limbs. MRI of the whole spine revealed a heterogeneous intramedullary mass resembling an ependymoma extending from the C₆ to T₃ level with heterogeneous enhancement after contrast administration. Laminectomy and midline opening of the dura were performed. The spinal lesion appeared to have no capsule and locate intramedullary. The lesion did not attach the dura mater and invade the surrounding tissues. The tumor was removed totally. Microscopic examination showed that a moderate cellular tumor was composed of uniform cells and arranged in sheets. The tumor cells had round nuclei, finely speckled chromatin and clear cytoplasm. Some cells had perinuclear haloes resembling oligodendrogloma. In some areas, the tumor cells with elongated cytoplasmic processes arranged radially around the blood vessels with myxoid degeneration, forming a structure of "perivascular pseudorosette", resembling the ependymoma. Mitotic activity and necrotic area were not observed. The tumor cells were strongly immunopositive for Syn, focally positive for NSE, S-100 and Oligo-2, but negative for Vim, CK, EMA, NeuN and GFAP. Ki-67 index was less than 1% in our case. Based on clinical presentation and histological findings, a final histological diagnosis of primary EVN in spinal cord was made according to the criteria of WHO classification. The patient has not received radiotherapy and attended follow-up for 6 months, without any neurological deficit or signs of recurrence. **Conclusion** Spinal EVN is extremely rare and there are no more than 20 bona fide cases reported previously all over the world. It might originate from neuronal precursor cells surrounding the region of central canal in fetal life. The definite diagnosis of this tumor should be made under the microscopical examination because the preoperatively radiological appearance of the tumor does not differ from other tumors occurring in spinal cord. Although good prognosis obtained from gross total resection in most of reported patients with this tumor, adjuvant radiotherapy is recommended for those tumors with atypical histological features to avoid the tumor recurrence. Due to the rarity of its site, the tumor can easily be confused with other tumors of spinal cord with clear cells features and ependymoma-like structure. The strictly differential diagnosis should be made when the tumor is encountered in spinal cord.

【Key words】 Neurocytoma; Cerebral ventricles; Spinal cord; Immunohistochemistry; Pathology

中枢神经细胞瘤(central neurocytoma)是一种位于脑室内、边界清楚,由小圆形神经细胞组成的中枢神经系统低级别肿瘤,占全部中枢神经系统肿瘤的0.10%~0.40%。最初由Hassoun等^[1]描述,并严格将其定义为局限在侧脑室和第三脑室内的肿瘤^[2]。脑室外神经细胞瘤(EVN)尽管组织学形态和生物学行为与中枢神经细胞瘤十分相似,但发生部位更为广泛,几乎可以出现在中枢神经系统除脑室外的任何部位,包括大脑和小脑实质、丘脑、脊髓、马尾神经及视网膜等^[3-5]。由于不断有文献报道发生于脑室外、组织形态学类似中枢神经细胞瘤的肿瘤,2007年世界卫生组织(WHO)中枢神经系统肿瘤分类将其作为一种新的肿瘤实体,归类于神经元及混合性神经元-胶质肿瘤^[6]。脑室外神经细胞瘤可发生于幕上或幕下,但发生于脊髓者临床十分罕见,由于其组织学可表现为少突胶质细胞瘤样的透明细胞或围绕血管的“假菊形团”结构,故常误诊为少突胶质细胞瘤和室管膜瘤。本文报告1例临床少见的发生于47岁男性患者脊髓C₆~T₃节段的原发性脊髓脑室外神经细胞瘤,通过文献复习对其组织形态学特点、免疫组织化学表型,以及治疗和预后等临床病理学特征进行分析,以期提高临床对此类

肿瘤的鉴别诊断能力。

病历摘要

患者 男性,47岁。主因双上肢无力1年、加重2周余并颈部疼痛,于2012年10月16日至中山大学附属第一医院神经外科就诊。患者近1年来双上肢呈渐进性无力,但无明显肌肉疼痛和感觉异常症状,自觉右上肢肌无力症状更为明显。曾以“中药”外用敷贴双上肢肌肉并进行按摩(具体药物和剂量不详),但治疗效果欠佳。近2周自觉双上肢无力症状加重,不能提物且颈部持续性钝痛。当地医院予“吡罗昔康贴片”敷贴颈部1周,自觉症状无好转,遂至我院就诊。颈部MRI检查显示,C₆~T₃节段脊髓内占位性病变,考虑肿瘤性病变收入院。患者自颈部疼痛后食欲呈渐进性减退,但无头痛、眩晕和耳鸣等症状。

既往史及家族史 平日除上肢无力外全身状况尚佳,可正常工作和生活。否认肝炎、结核病等传染病史,否认手术、外伤、输血史,否认食物、药物过敏史,预防接种史不详。无疫区、疫水接触、特殊化学物品和放射线接触史。父母健康,家族中无类似病史。

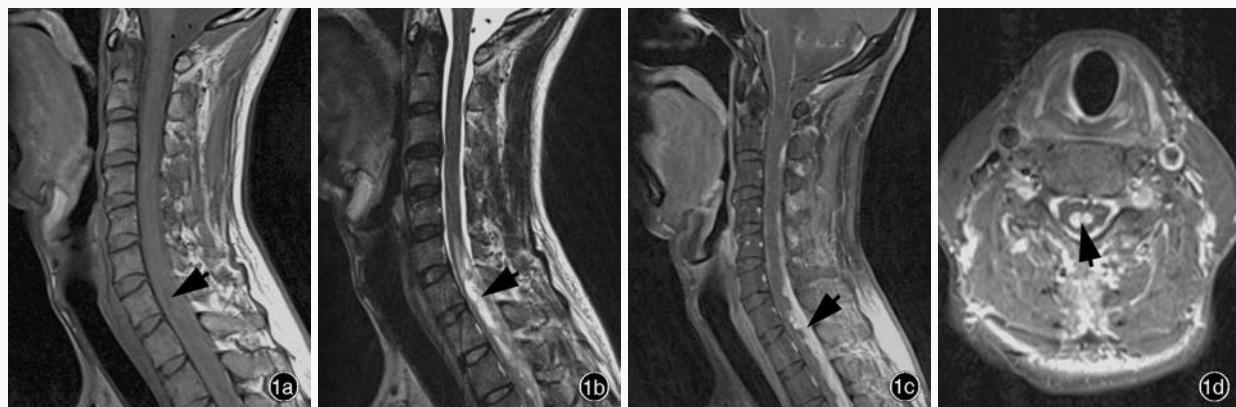


图1 术前颈部MRI检查所见 1a 矢状位T₁WI显示病变位于C₆~T₃节段脊髓内,呈低信号(箭头所示) 1b 矢状位T₂WI显示病变呈高信号(箭头所示) 1c 矢状位T₁WI增强扫描显示,病灶呈不均匀强化,邻近硬脊膜部分明显强化(箭头所示) 1d 横断面T₁WI增强扫描显示,病灶位于脊髓内呈不均匀强化(箭头所示)

Figure 1 Preoperative radiologic findings of the lesion. Sagittal T₁WI showed an irregular, hypointense and intramedullary lesion at C₆–T₃ level of spinal cord (arrow indicates, Panel 1a). On sagittal T₂WI, the lesion was hyperintense (arrow indicates, Panel 1b). After contrast administration, a heterogenous gadolinium-enhanced lesion and enhanced adjacent dura of the spinal cord were observed (arrow indicates, Panel 1c). Axial postcontrast T₁WI scan showed a mild heterogenous enhancing lesion located in intramedullary (arrow indicates, Panel 1d).

体格检查 患者体温36.5℃,心率83次/min,呼吸16次/min,血压135/87 mm Hg (1 mm Hg = 0.133 kPa)。神志清楚,语言流利。全身皮肤及黏膜无紫绀、黄染。全身浅表淋巴结未触及、无肿大。颈部轻度压痛,双上肢无畸形、无明显肌萎缩,肌力4级,无感觉障碍,肌张力正常。双下肢肌力、肌张力正常。双眼视力、视野正常。脑膜刺激征阴性,腱反射阳性,病理征未引出。

辅助检查 (1)实验室检查:血常规白细胞计数 $7.42 \times 10^9/L$ [(4~10) $\times 10^9/L$],中性粒细胞0.55(0.46~0.75),血小板计数 $236 \times 10^9/L$ [(100~300) $\times 10^9/L$],血红蛋白145 g/L(120~160 g/L)。各项凝血指标及肝、肾功能试验均于正常值范围。甲胎蛋白(AFP)和癌胚抗原(CEA)检测未见异常。(2)影像学检查:胸部X线检查未见异常。颈部MRI检查显示,病变位于C₆~T₃节段脊髓内,T₁WI呈低信号,T₂WI呈高信号,T₁WI增强扫描病灶强化不均匀,邻近硬脊膜可见部分明显强化(图1)。

诊断与治疗经过 患者入院后1周于气管插管全身麻醉下施行椎板切开术并沿中线打开硬脊膜。术中可见肿瘤位于脊髓内,无包膜,与周围组织分界不清,质地柔软,呈灰红色,血供较丰富,导致病变区域脊髓肿胀并轻度移位,病灶与硬脊膜无粘连,于T_{1~2}节段采集小块病灶组织行术中病理冰冻快速诊断,提示低级别胶质瘤。手术完整切除病

灶,行组织病理学检查。(1)大体标本观察:手术切除的组织标本为不规则破碎组织块,约为1.50 cm × 1.20 cm × 0.50 cm大小,灰红色,质地柔软,无包膜。经体积分数为10%的中性甲醛溶液固定、石蜡包埋制备脑组织切片,行常规HE染色和免疫组织化学染色。(2)组织形态学观察:肿瘤组织呈弥漫片状或团簇状分布,呈现两种组织学构象。部分肿瘤细胞呈圆形,大小、形态较一致,胞核圆形或卵圆形,染色质呈斑点状,部分细胞可见小核仁,但未见核分裂象,可见核周空晕,呈少突胶质细胞瘤样特点,间质内可见纤细的分支状血管(图2a)。部分肿瘤细胞排列较致密,呈短梭形放射状排列或围绕在血管周围形成不典型“菊形团”结构,伴基质黏液变性,核仁不明显,无核周空晕,类似室管膜瘤样结构(图2b)。上述两种组织形态学构象均未见典型的无核神经纤维岛和神经节样细胞,亦无钙化灶和出血坏死灶。肿瘤周围硬脊膜未见肿瘤细胞浸润。(3)免疫组织化学染色:采用EnVision二步法行免疫组织化学检测。检测抗体包括波形蛋白(Vim, 1:100)、细胞角蛋白(CK, 1:200)、上皮膜抗原(EMA, 1:100)、胶质纤维酸性蛋白(GFAP, 1:200)、S-100蛋白(S-100, 1:100)、突触素(Syn, 1:100)、嗜铬素A(CgA, 1:200)、神经元特异性烯醇化酶(NSE, 1:200)、神经元核抗原(NeuN, 1:100)、少突胶质细胞转录因子-2(Oligo-2, 1:100)和Ki-67抗原(1:100),

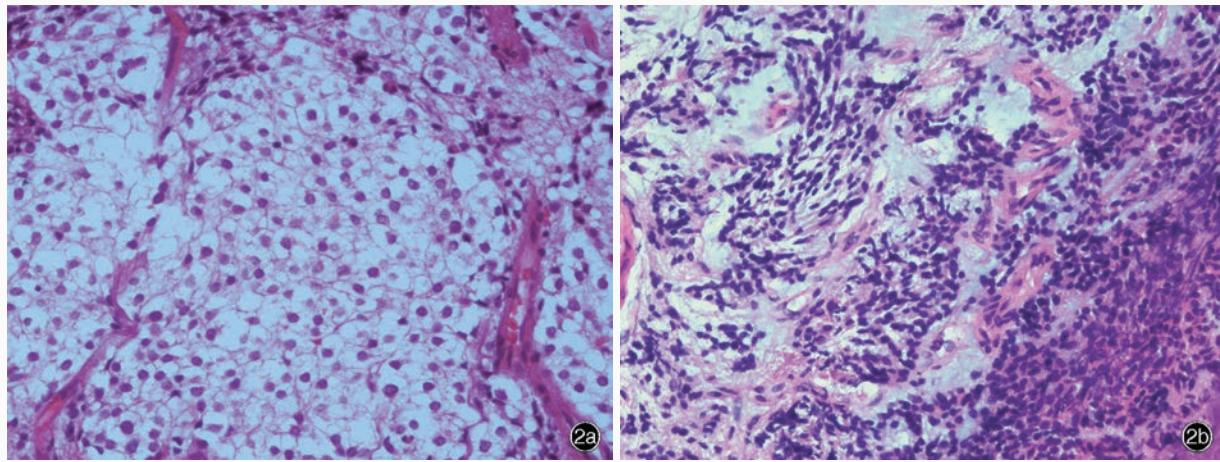


图2 光学显微镜观察所见 HE染色 ×400 2a 肿瘤组织由形态、大小一致的圆形细胞构成,胞质空亮,部分可见核周空晕,类似少突胶质细胞瘤样结构 2b 肿瘤组织由胞质突起较长的肿瘤细胞构成,排列在血管周围呈放射状,形成围绕血管的“假菊形团”结构,并伴基质黏液变性,类似室管膜瘤样结构

Figure 2 The histological features of the lesion. HE staining ×400 The tumor was composed of uniform cells and arranged in sheets. The tumor cells had round nuclei and clear cytoplasm. Some cells had perinuclear haloes resembling oligodendrogloma (Panel 2a). In some areas, the tumor cells with elongated cytoplasmic processes arranged radially around the blood vessels with myxoid degeneration, forming a structure of "perivascular pseudorosette", resembling the ependymoma. There was no clear cell observed in this area (Panel 2b).

分别购自美国 NeoMarkers 公司和丹麦 Dako 公司;免疫组织化学检测 EnVision 试剂盒和二氨基联苯胺 (DAB) 显色试剂盒由丹麦 Dako 公司提供。结果显示,少突胶质细胞瘤样区域和室管膜瘤样区域肿瘤细胞突触素呈强阳性(图 3a, 3b),神经元特异性烯醇化酶、S-100 蛋白和 Oligo-2 呈散在阳性(图 3c),肿瘤细胞不表达波形蛋白、细胞角蛋白、上皮膜抗原、神经元核抗原和胶质纤维酸性蛋白(图 3d),Ki-67 抗原标记指数<1%。病理诊断:(脊髓 C₆~T₃ 节段)脑室外神经细胞瘤(WHO II 级)。

手术后患者恢复良好,无明显神经系统异常表现,双上肢功能部分恢复。术后 15 d 出院,未接受任何药物化疗或放射治疗。术后 3 和 6 个月随访时 MRI 未见肿瘤复发迹象,目前仍在随访中。

讨 论

脑室外神经细胞瘤是少见的發生于中枢神经系统脑室外的低级别肿瘤。1982 年, Hassoun 等^[1]描述 2 例发生在第三脑室具有明显神经元分化特征的肿瘤性病变,并首次命名为中枢神经细胞瘤。此后的研究发现,尽管中枢神经细胞瘤多发生于侧脑室,但也有少数发生于脑室外系统。1992 年, Nishio 等^[2]报告 3 例发生于脑室外的中枢神经细胞瘤青年患者,并命名为“脑的神经细胞瘤(cerebral

neurocytoma)”以区别脑室内神经细胞瘤(intraventricular neurocytoma)。同年,Miller 等^[3]发现,这种在非典型部位发生的神经细胞瘤具有星形胶质细胞和神经节细胞成分,认为其应定义为“节细胞胶质神经细胞瘤(ganglioglioneurocytoma)”。1997 年,Giangaspero 等^[4]通过对 11 例脑室外具神经细胞瘤特点肿瘤的临床病理学特征进行分析指出,这些肿瘤是具有神经细胞瘤特征的混合性星形-神经元肿瘤(mixed astrocytic-neuronal neoplasms with neurocytomatous features),并强调此类肿瘤可发生于中枢神经系统的任何部位。因此,2000 年 WHO 中枢神经系统肿瘤分类建议以“中枢神经细胞瘤”严格定义这些发生在侧脑室和第三脑室的肿瘤,而发生在其他部位的类似肿瘤则建议以“脑室外中枢神经细胞瘤(extraventricular central neurocytoma)”命名。至 2007 年,WHO 中枢神经系统肿瘤分类修订这一名称为“脑室外神经细胞瘤”,接受其为独立肿瘤类型并与中枢神经细胞瘤使用同一国际疾病分类(ICD)编码^[6]。

脑室外神经细胞瘤可出现在中枢神经系统除脑室外的任何部位,多发生于幕上,亦可发生于幕下,但发生于脊髓者十分罕见,推测其可能起源于胚胎时期脊髓中央管周围的神经元前体细胞^[9]。目前,国内外文献仅报道 18 例脊髓脑室外神经细胞瘤

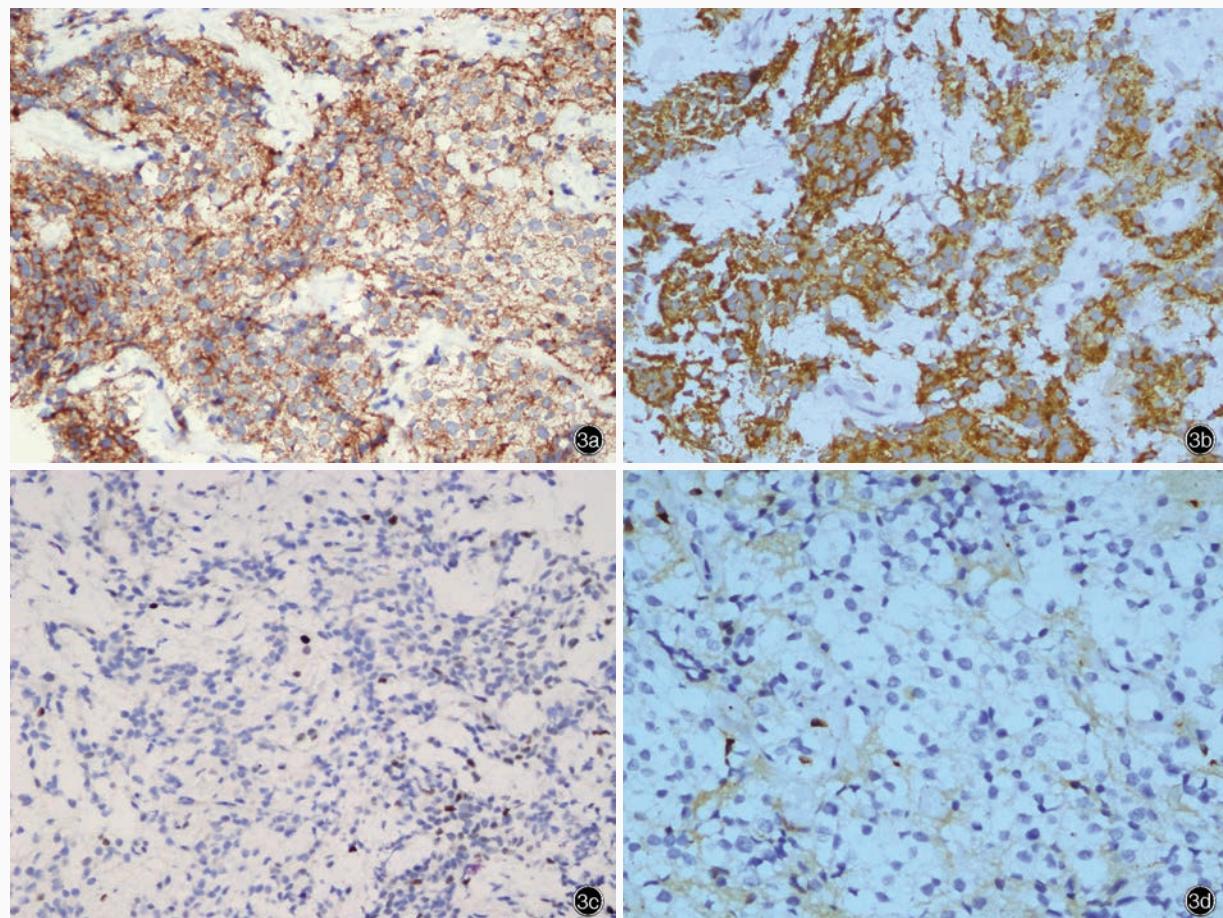


图3 光学显微镜观察所见 免疫组织化学染色(EnVision二步法) $\times 400$ 3a 在少突胶质细胞瘤样区域肿瘤细胞突触素表达呈弥漫强阳性 3b 在室管膜瘤样区域肿瘤细胞突触素表达呈弥漫强阳性 3c 仅有少数肿瘤细胞灶性表达Oligo-2 3d 肿瘤细胞不表达胶质纤维酸性蛋白

Figure 3 Optical microscopy findings. Immunohistochemical staining (EnVision) $\times 400$. The oligodendrogloma-like component of tumor was immunopositive for Syn diffusely and strongly (Panel 3a). The ependymoma-like component of tumor was also observed positive for Syn strongly (Panel 3b). The Oligo-2 positive signals were observed in tumor cells focally and weakly (Panel 3c). The tumor cells were observed to be negative for GFAP (Panel 3d).

患者^[9-23](表1),以男性居多(男:女=13:5),发病年龄6~67岁,平均35.70岁,高于中枢神经细胞瘤患者(平均发病年龄29岁)。病变部位好发于颈胸髓,3例累及腰髓,其中1例位于马尾神经。共16例脊髓脑室外神经细胞瘤局限在脊髓内,MRI显示肿瘤边界清楚,可导致脊髓受压、移位,T₁WI呈等或低信号、T₂WI呈等或高信号,增强后病灶均匀或不均匀强化,部分可发生囊性变,但目前尚无特征性影像学诊断依据。其中1例位于马尾神经的脑室外神经细胞瘤表现为自椎管内向脊髓外的外生性生长^[12],另1例发生在胸髓的脑室外神经细胞瘤也呈外生性生长,尽管有少部分肿瘤位于脊髓内,但突出于脊髓外的肿瘤位于硬脊膜下极易误诊为脊膜瘤^[21]。临床症状与肿瘤发生部位密切相关,位于幕上者多

表现为癫痫、复视及颅内压升高^[24],幕下者则以神经功能障碍为主^[17]。脊髓脑室外神经细胞瘤患者临床主要症状和体征为四肢肌力下降及脊髓受累节段分布区域感觉异常,发生于胸髓以下者可伴括约肌功能障碍。包括本文患者,国内已有3例脊髓脑室外神经细胞瘤的报道^[20,23],其中2例位于颈胸髓、1例位于腰髓并有马尾神经穿过,后者出现大小便失禁。

脊髓脑室外神经细胞瘤在组织形态学上大多表现为形态、大小较一致的圆形或类圆形细胞,胞核呈圆形、居中,有核周空晕,并可见小核仁,有时尚可见无核神经纤维岛,血运丰富,钙化小体常见。这种少突胶质细胞瘤样细胞和团状无核神经纤维岛与中枢神经细胞瘤十分相似,是诊断的重要

表1 脊髓脑室外神经细胞瘤的临床病理特征**Table 1.** Clinicopathological features of EVN in spinal cord described in present and previous reports

| Case | Literature resource | Diagnosis | Gender | Age (year) | Location | Clinical presentation | Treatment | Outcome |
|------|---|-----------|--------|------------|--|--|----------------|-------------------------|
| 1 | Tatter, et al ^[9] (1994) | CNC | Male | 65 | C ₃₋₄ , intramedullary | Numbness and paresthesias in the left upper extremity | GTR + RT | NED at 10 years |
| 2 | Tatter, et al ^[9] (1994) | CNC | Male | 49 | C ₄ , intramedullary | Paresthesias in left hand | STR + RT + GTR | NED at 5 years |
| 3 | Coca, et al ^[10] (1994) | NC | Male | 67 | T ₁₀₋₁₁ , intramedullary | Numbness of the left foot | GTR | NED at 30 months |
| 4 | Stapleton, et al ^[11] (1997) | CNC | Male | 12 | C _{4-T₁} , intramedullary | Paraesthesia of both hands and fatigue in legs | GTR | NED at 24 months |
| 5 | Stephan, et al ^[12] (1999) | NC | Female | 46 | Cauda equina, exophytic | Weakness of left lower extremity | GTR | NED at 12 months |
| 6 | Martin, et al ^[13] (2002) | NC | Male | 50 | T ₂₋₅ , intramedullary | Pain and a rapidly progressive myelopathy | STR + GTR | NED at 24 months |
| 7 | Baehring, et al ^[14] (2005) | GNC | Male | 13 | T ₆₋₁₀ , intramedullary | Mild thoracic back pain | Not available | Not available |
| 8 | Sharma, et al ^[15] (2005) | ASN | Male | 24 | C _{5-T₁} , intramedullary | Weakness and numbness in the left upper and lower limbs | STR + GTR | Recurrence at 10 months |
| 9 | Singh, et al ^[16] (2007) | ANC | Male | 8 | T ₂₋₈ , intramedullary | Paraparesis and urinary incontinence | STR | NED at 3 months |
| 10 | Gokhan, et al ^[17] (2008) | EVN | Female | 49 | C ₃₋₅ , intramedullary | Numbness and paresthesias in right hand | STR | NED at 7 months |
| 11 | Marucci, et al ^[18] (2009) | GNC | Male | 51 | T ₁₀₋₁₁ , intramedullary | Back pain and hyposthenia of lower limbs | GTR | NED at 12 months |
| 12 | Polli, et al ^[19] (2009) | SN | Male | 5 | C ₁₋₇ , intramedullary | Intracranial hypertension and weakness in right upper limb | STR | NED at 23 years |
| 13 | Polli, et al ^[19] (2009) | SN | Male | 15 | C _{1-T₁₁} , intramedullary | Cervical and left shoulder pain, weakness in right arm | STR | NED at 24 months |
| 14 | Polli, et al ^[19] (2009) | SN | Female | 37 | T _{12-L₁} , intramedullary | Paraesthesia in the right lower limb and low back pain | STR + RT | Recurrence at 15 months |
| 15 | Zhou, et al ^[20] (2010) | ENV | Male | 27 | C ₄₋₅ , intramedullary | Paraesthesia and weakness in the right limbs | STR + RT | NED at 3.50 months |
| 16 | Tsai, et al ^[21] (2011) | SN | Female | 54 | T ₃₋₅ , extramedullary | Weakness of both lower legs | GTR | NED at 6 months |
| 17 | Gepp Rde, et al ^[22] (2012) | CNC | Female | 15 | intramedullary | Right hand dysfunction and cervical pain | STR | Not available |
| 18 | Wang, et al ^[23] (2012) | EVN | Male | 56 | L ₁₋₂ , intramedullary | Urinary incontinence and low back pain | STR + GTR | NED at 8 months |
| 19 | Present case | EVN | Male | 47 | C _{6-T₃} , intramedullary | Weakness in both upper arms | GTR | NED at 6 months |

CNC, central neurocytoma, 中枢神经细胞瘤；NC, neurocytoma, 神经细胞瘤；GNC, ganglioneurocytoma, 节细胞神经细胞瘤；ASN, atypical spinal neurocytoma, 不典型性脊髓神经细胞瘤；ANC, atypical neurocytoma, 不典型性神经细胞瘤；EVN, extraventricular neurocytoma, 脑室外神经细胞瘤；SN, spinal neurocytoma, 脊髓神经细胞瘤；GTR, gross total resection, 肿瘤全切除；STR, subtotal resection, 肿瘤次全切除；RT, radiotherapy, 放射治疗；NED, no evidence of disease, 无复发

线索。但与中枢神经细胞瘤相比,脑室外神经细胞瘤的组织形态学更为复杂,尤其是约半数以上患者可见局灶性和弥漫性神经节细胞分化^[24],而这种现象极少出现在中枢神经细胞瘤。另外,脑室外神经细胞瘤可见表达胶质纤维酸性蛋白的肿瘤细胞,而这些细胞有些并不具备星形胶质细胞的组织形态学特点,而且同时表达神经元标志物突触素,因此被认为是同时伴神经元和神经胶质分化的肿瘤细胞^[24];有些胶质纤维酸性蛋白阳性细胞是分化良好的星形胶质细胞,故认为是反应性星形胶质细胞而非肿瘤细胞^[3]。脑室外神经细胞瘤的典型无核神经纤维岛并不十分明显,而是表现为围绕血管呈放射状排列的室管膜瘤样结构,极易误诊为室管膜瘤。本文报道的1例脊髓脑室外神经细胞瘤患者,具有典型的少突胶质细胞瘤样区域和室管膜瘤样区域,

但缺乏无核神经纤维岛结构,在术中病理冰冻快速诊断时由于只观察到室管膜瘤样区域而考虑为胶质瘤,因此足够数量的肿瘤标本和全面的组织学观察是明确诊断非典型部位脑室外神经细胞瘤的关键。本文脊髓脑室外神经细胞瘤患者组织学观察未见核分裂象,细胞增殖指数亦极低,属WHO II级肿瘤。值得注意的是,文献中所报道的脊髓脑室外神经细胞瘤病例中有2例被诊断为“不典型性神经细胞瘤”^[16]或“不典型性脊髓神经细胞瘤”^[15],皆因具有较高的细胞增殖指数(9%~13%)和较多的核分裂象,其中1例术后复发,另1例尽管在短期随访(3个月)内无复发,但其长期预后并不乐观。对于不典型性神经细胞瘤的诊断标准,还包括Ki-67抗原标记指数>2%、核分裂象增多(>2个/10高倍视野)、局灶性坏死和血管增生^[24-25]。诊断时应注意这

些指标,准确进行病理分级,因为高级别脑室外神经细胞瘤需接受放射治疗。

由于组织形态学的相似性,少见部位的脑室外神经细胞瘤极易与其他肿瘤相混淆,包括少突胶质细胞瘤、室管膜瘤和胚胎发育不良性神经上皮肿瘤(DNT)。脊髓是室管膜瘤的好发部位,肿瘤细胞密度增加,但分布不均匀,常围绕血管周围呈“假菊形团”样或放射状分布,细长的胞质突起伸向血管壁,致使近血管壁出现无细胞区,此与中枢神经细胞瘤和部分脑室外神经细胞瘤中的无核神经纤维岛十分相似。另外,透明细胞型室管膜瘤的肿瘤细胞也有核周空晕,类似少突胶质细胞瘤。这些显微镜下特征都易与脊髓脑室外神经细胞瘤相混淆。但肿瘤细胞广泛表达胶质纤维酸性蛋白和特征性点状表达上皮膜抗原是诊断室管膜瘤的重要依据。根据文献复习,突触素呈弥漫强阳性表达是诊断脊髓脑室外神经细胞瘤最可靠的免疫学标志物,其他神经元标志物如神经元核抗原和神经微丝蛋白(NF)的表达均不如突触素强烈而稳定。尽管脑室外神经细胞瘤中可见胶质纤维酸性蛋白阳性的肿瘤细胞,甚至我们推测脑室外神经细胞瘤可能会伴有部分室管膜分化而灶性表达上皮膜抗原,但呈弥漫强阳性的突触素可资与室管膜瘤相鉴别。少突胶质细胞瘤通常发生在大脑白质浅层与皮质相接的部位,但也少数发生于脊髓。与脑室外神经细胞瘤不同的是,少突胶质细胞瘤的组织形态学构象较单一,唯可见成片的核周空晕。肿瘤细胞缺乏无核神经纤维岛和室管膜瘤样区域,但在部分伴神经元分化的少突胶质细胞瘤中亦可见核仁突出、突触素和神经元核抗原表达阳性的区域,此时二者的鉴别诊断有一定困难。我们的经验是,脑室外神经细胞瘤突触素表达阳性范围更大、强度更强,而伴神经元分化的少突胶质细胞瘤仅灶性表达阳性。另外,我们认为Oligo-2对鉴别诊断有独到之处。少突胶质细胞瘤Oligo-2表达呈均匀弥漫强阳性,而神经细胞瘤和室管膜瘤则呈弱表达或灶性表达^[26],这种表达方式的细微差别对鉴别诊断甚为重要。本文患者突触素呈弥漫强阳性而Oligo-2仅呈灶性表达,支持神经细胞瘤的诊断。DNT主要发生在颞叶皮质,目前尚无发生于脊髓的报道,但在组织形态学上与脑室外神经细胞瘤有相似之处,二者均可见少突胶质细胞样细胞和散在分布的神经元,故幕上脑室外神经细胞瘤有必要与DNT相鉴别。典型的DNT有“柱

形结构”和漂浮的神经元,而脑室外神经细胞瘤则无此构象;DNT的少突胶质细胞样细胞也可弥漫性或灶性表达突触素和神经元核抗原等神经元标志物,但同时也弥漫强阳性表达Oligo-2,这一点与神经细胞瘤有所不同,可资鉴别。因此,对于一些组织形态学不典型的DNT,Oligo-2在鉴别诊断时有一定应用价值。

尽管个别脊髓脑室外神经细胞瘤病例在部分切除和仅行组织活检后可长期生存^[9,19],但肿瘤全切除仍是目前治疗脊髓脑室外神经细胞瘤的首选治疗方案。文献报道的复发性脊髓脑室外神经细胞瘤病例皆为肿瘤次全切除者^[15,19]。由于肿瘤全切除易引起明显的脊髓功能紊乱,因此对该治疗手段仍存争论,而且神经细胞瘤是否应采取放射治疗也存有争议。在早期研究中,对间变性中枢神经细胞瘤手术全切除后均施以放射治疗,随访12个月未见肿瘤复发^[27];随后的大样本研究发现,肿瘤全切除患者术后辅以放射治疗并不能控制其复发率,而次全切除者确实能从放射治疗中获益^[28]。在文献报道的18例脊髓脑室外神经细胞瘤病例中,4例于肿瘤次全切除术后接受放射治疗,但仍有部分病例复发^[9,19]。因此,对于不能手术全切除肿瘤的患者或具有不典型组织学表现的患者,术后放射治疗是目前认可的治疗方案。

由于脊髓脑室外神经细胞瘤十分少见,且其影像学和组织形态学表现与其他肿瘤有相似性,在诊断和鉴别诊断时会存在一定困难。因此,在诊断脊髓透明细胞病变时应提高对该肿瘤的警惕性并注意与其他具有相似组织形态学结构的肿瘤相鉴别,只有充分了解这种少见脊髓肿瘤的临床、影像学和组织病理学特点,方能避免可能出现的诊断陷阱而得出正确结论。

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