

Fatal Hemorrhage of a Supratentorial Extraventricular Anaplastic Ependymoma in an Elderly Patient

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Abstract

Introduction: Intracranial ependymomas are less common in adults, and supratentorial extraventricular anaplastic ependymomas requiring emergency surgery are extremely rare. In addition, effective adjuvant chemotherapy for anaplastic ependymoma has not been defined, especially in adults. We herein describe a rare case of supratentorial extraventricular anaplastic ependymoma with fatal intratumoral hemorrhage and discuss the adjuvant therapy in malignant glioma patients with a poor cognitive function.

Case report: A 69-year-old female presented with a large area of intratumoral hemorrhage manifesting as a sudden coma. A cauliflower-like tumor was found primarily in the left inferior frontal gyrus unattached to the lateral ventricle. The histologic features were consistent with those of anaplastic ependymoma. Due to the patient's age and impaired cognitive function, we administered only temozolomide chemotherapy as adjuvant therapy.

Conclusion: Maximal surgical resection is a valuable treatment option for anaplastic ependymoma.

Key words : Anaplastic ependymoma, Supratentorial, Extraventricular, Hemorrhage, Temozolomide