Histopathological Study and Categorization of Brain Tumors in Mangalore

Dr. Suchitra A Shetty¹, Dr. Shreesha Khandige²

¹Assistant Professor, Department of Pathology, Kanachur Institute of Medical Sciences, Mangalore.
²Professor and HOD, Department of Pathology, Kanachur Institute of Medical Sciences, Mangalore

Abstract: WHO recently published its 4th edition of classification of tumours of central nervous system (2007), incorporating a substantial number of important changes to the previous version (2000). It is important to classify because each type has a specific set of outcome and the treatment of it differs. Neuroepithelial tumours were the most common histological type followed by meningiomas and pituitary tumours. Majority of malignant intracranial tumours were WHO grade I.

Keywords: Brain, Cancer, Classification, Diagnoses, Histopathology.

1. Introduction

The clinicopathological aspect and role of pathologist in specific diagnosis of central nervous system (CNS) neoplasms is well understood. WHO recently published its 4th edition of classification of tumours of central nervous system (2007), incorporating a substantial number of important changes to the previous version (2000). The 4th edition introduces 10 newly codified entities, variants and patterns; changes in grading, changes in classification of existing brain tumours as well as 1 new genetic syndrome. In the present study attempt has been made to classify the intracranial tumours according to WHO (2007) 4th edition.¹

Primary brain tumors do not spread to other body sites, and can be malignant or benign. Secondary brain tumors are always malignant. Both types are potentially disabling and life threatening².

Although there has been a recent increase in the number of epidemiologic studies of brain cancer, little consensus exists regarding the nature and magnitude of the risk factors contributing to its development. In addition to the differences in methods and eligibility criteria used and in the representativeness of the patients studied, other confounding factors exist. There are a number of distinct types of brain cancers within the brain, and the treatments and their outcomes vary greatly based on pathologic and histologic diagnosis. More recently, researchers are identifying new therapies based on increased knowledge of cellular and molecular biology³.

It is important to classify because each type has a specific set of outcome and the treatment of it differs.

The WHO (2007) classified it as follows:

2. Tumours of Neuroepithelial Tissue

Astrocytic tumours
- Pilocytic astrocytoma
- Pilomyxoid astrocytoma
- Pleomorphic xanthoastrocytoma

Diffuse astrocytoma
- Fibrillary astrocytoma
- Gemistocytic astrocytoma
- Protoplasmic astrocytoma
- Anaplastic astrocytoma
- Glioblastoma
- Giant cell Glioblastoma
- Gliosarcoma
- Glialosis cerebri

Oligodendrogial tumors
- Oligodendroglioma
- Anaplastic oligodendrogloma

Oligoastrocytic tumours
- Oligoastrocytoma
- Anaplastic oligoastrocytoma

Ependymal tumours
- Subependymoma
- Myxopapillary ependymoma
- Ependymoma
- Cellular Papillary
- Clear cell
- Tanyctic
- Anaplastic ependymoma

Choroid plexus tumours
- Choroid plexus papilloma
- Atypical choroid plexus papilloma
- Choroid plexus carcinoma

Other neuroepithelial tumours
- Astroblastoma
- Chordoid glioma of the third ventricle
- Angiocentric glioma

Neuronal and mixed neuronal-glial tumours
- Dysplastic gangliocytoma of cerebellum
- [Lhermitte-Duclos]
- Desmoplastic infantile astrocytoma/ganglioglioma
- Dysembryoplastic neuroepithelial tumour
Gangliocytoma
Ganglioglioma
Anaplastic ganglioglioma
Central neurocytoma
Extraventricular neurocytoma
Cerebellar liponeurocytoma
Papillary glioneuronal tumour of the fourth ventricle
Paraganglioma

**Tumours of the pineal region**
Pineocytoma
Pineal parenchymal tumour of intermediate differentiation
Pineoblastoma
Papillary tumour of the pineal region

**Embryonal tumours**
Medulloblastoma
Desmoplastic nodular medulloblastoma
Medulloblastoma with extensive nodularity
Anaplastic medulloblastoma
Large cell medulloblastoma
CNS primitive neuroectodermal tumour
CNS neuroblastoma
CNS ganglioneuroblastoma
Medulloepithelioma
Ependymoblastoma
Atypical teratoid/ rhabdoid tumour

**Tumours of Cranial and Paraspinal Nerves**
Schwannoma [neurilemoma, neurinoma]
Cellular
Plexiform
Melanotic
Neurofibroma
Plexiform
Perineurioma
Perineurioma, NOS
Malignant perineurioma
Malignant peripheral nerve sheath tumour [MPNST]
Epithelioid MPNST
MPNST with mesenchymal differentiation
Melanotic MPNST
MPNST with glandular differentiation

**Tumours of the Meninges**
Tumours of meningothelial cells
Meningioma
Meningothelial
Fibrous [fibroblastic]
Transitional [mixed]
Psammomatous
Angiomatous
Microcystic
Secretory
Lymphoplasmacyte-rich
Metaplastic
Chordoid
Clear cell
Atypical
Papillary
Rhabdoid
Anaplastic [malignant]

**Mesenchymal tumours**
Lipoma
Angiolipoma
Hibernoma
Liposarcoma
Solitary fibrous tumour
Fibrosarcoma
Malignant fibrous histiocytoma
Leiomyosarcoma
Rhabdomyosarcoma
Chondroma
Chondrosarcoma
Osteoma
Osteosarcoma
Osteocchondroma
Haemangioma
Epithelioid haemangiendothelioma
Haemangiopericytoma
Anaplastic haemangiopericytoma
Angiosarcoma
Kaposi sarcoma
Ewing sarcoma-PNET

**Primary melanocytic lesions**
Diffuse melanocytosis
Melanocytoma
Malignant melanoma
Meningeal melanomatosis

**Other neoplasms related to the meninges**
Haemangioblastoma

**Lymphomas and Haematopoietic Neoplasms**
Malignant lymphomas
Plasmacytoma
Granulocytic sarcoma

**Germ Cell Tumours**
Germinoma
Embryonal carcinoma
Yolk sac tumour
Choriocarcinoma
Teratoma
Mature
Immature
Teratoma with malignant transformation
Mixed germ cell tumour

**Tumours of the Sellar Region**
Craniopharyngioma
Adenomatous
Papillary
Granular cell tumour
Pituicytoma
Spindle cell oncocytoma of the adenohypophysis

**Metastatic Tumours**

**Tumours of Pituitary Gland**
Pituitary adenomas.
Pituitary carcinomas.
Aims and Objectives
To identify and classify brain tumours using histopathology techniques.

3. Materials and Methods
The material used in this study was done in Tejaswini Hospital, Mangalore. The specimens were obtained from 38 cases of intracranial tumours, over a period of 2 years from May 2009 to May 2011.

Complete clinical history and clinical diagnosis were noted down in all the cases. All the specimens were from biopsy of operated tumours received in 10% formaline. They were processed by the routine paraffin embedding technique. All the tissue bits that were received were embedded, wherever necessary in multiple paraffin blocks and sections from all these blocks were studied. Paraffin sections of 4 microns thickness were obtained from each block and stained with haematoxyline and eosine stain using standard procedures. Histochemical stains were performed wherever indicated.

4. Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Histological Type</th>
<th>Present Study</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Neuroepithelial tumour</td>
<td>31.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cranial nerve tumours</td>
<td>10.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meningeal tumours</td>
<td>30.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tumours of sellar region</td>
<td>2.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lymphomas</td>
<td>2.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metastatic tumour</td>
<td>7.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pituitary tumour</td>
<td>15.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. Discussion
When the present study is compared with the other study the following are noted

6. Conclusion
- Neuroepithelial tumours were the most common histological type followed by meningiomas and pituitary tumours.
- Majority of malignant intracranial tumours were WHO grade I.
- Rare variant like clear cell type was also observed.
- Craniopharyngiomas do not necessarily occur in 4-6 years as projected in other studies because occurrence at 54 years has been recorded in the present study.
- Most meningiomas were of grade I, but most astrocytomas were of higher grade.
- Germ cell tumours were rare, in the present study their incidence was nil.
- One case of neuroblastoma was interesting for family study but was not possible due to insufficient follow up.

References