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Abstract

Background: Neuroendocrine tumors of the neck are rare swellings, which constitute about 0.03% of all tumors. Most are sporadically arising paragangliomas. Over 50% arise from the carotid bodies and pose difficulties in diagnosis and surgical management, which may result in disabling complications.

Objective: To determine the diagnostic, surgical and postoperative challenges, and how to overcome them, in the management of neuroendocrine tumors of the neck.

Study design: Descriptive case series.

Methods: A retrospective analysis of 19 patients who presented to our surgery clinics between 2010 and 2015 with neck swelling and suspicion of neurogenic tumors were included in the study. All patients received preoperative evaluation with Doppler studies and neck computed tomography scan, with the finding of suspicion of neurogenic tumor. Preoperative tissue diagnosis was not attempted as this usually required excisional biopsy. All tumors were surgically excised. Data regarding mean

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