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Suprasellar Germinomas: Two Case Reports And Literature Review

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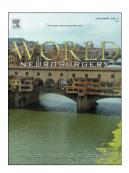
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ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

SUPRASELLAR GERMINOMAS:

TWO CASE REPORTS AND LITERATURE REVIEW

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INTRODUCTION

Germinomas are a rare and malignant CNS tumor, a type of Germ Cell Tumors (GCTs), according to the 2016 WHO Classification of Brain Tumors. They arise from embryonal rests of germ cells located in the midline due to aberrant migration during early development. The majority of these tumors (~94%) develop along the midline, most from the pineal gland (which produces primarily nongerminomatous GCTs), followed by tumors arising in the suprasellar cisterns (which are most often germinomas). Suprasellar germinomas commonly present with diabetes insipidus, visual impairment, and hypothalamic-pituitary failure.

In Western society, intracranial germ cell tumors (IC GCTs) comprise less than 5% of childhood tumors of the central nervous system. The incidence rises to over 10% in parts of Eastern Asia. ^{5,8,12} CNS GCTs occur most commonly in the young population, with approximately 90% of cases occurring in patients before the age of 20 years old and a incidence peak between 10–12 years of age. ⁶ Germinomas comprise nearly two-thirds of all intracranial GCTs and tend to have the best prognosis of all the subtypes. More than 90% will respond positively to chemotherapy and radiation therapy, making early diagnosis the mainstay. ¹³

CASE REPORT

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