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Hepatocellular carcinoma metastasis to sphenoid and cavernous sinus:

an unexpected cause of ptosis

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A 73-year-old woman with hepatitis C associated cirrhosis was diagnosed with

hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC). After locoregional therapy with transcatheter arterial

chemoembolization, HCC progressed with abdominal lymph node involvement and she

initiated sorafenib.

Six months later, she complained of frontotemporal and left periorbital headache with

associated photophobia. She also had left ptosis. Sorafenib was stopped, without

symptomatic improvement. On neurologic examination she had a slight abduction

deficit, more accentuated in the left eye with horizontal diplopia. Magnetic resonance

imaging of the face and perinasal sinus identified a lesion in the left sphenoid sinus

(22x16x16 mm), that invaded the cavernous sinus and the anterior slope of Meckel's

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