Primary intracerebral myxoid chondrosarcoma

Case illustration

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This 69-year-old man presented with a 3-month history of frontal headache, dizziness, and behavioral changes. The diagnosis of right frontal meningioma was suggested by the results of magnetic resonance (MR) imaging, whereas angiography results suggested an intraaxial lesion (Figs. 1 and 2). At surgery, we totally removed a well-delineated intracerebral mass located 1.5 cm under the cortex. Pathological examination revealed a myxoid chondrosarcoma (Fig. 3). The early postoperative course was uneventful. Unfortunately, septic shock developed from diverticular perforation and the patient died 1 month after surgery. An autopsy study revealed no other tumor location.

Originating in most cases from embryonic rests of the chondrocranium, cartilaginous tumors represent less than 0.15% of all intracranial neoplasms.1 Primary intracranial myxoid chondrosarcoma is unusual and typically located at the skull base.2 Probably originating from primitive multipotential mesenchymal cells, lesions located above the skull base are exceptional. Two cases, affecting, respectively, the falk and the choroid plexus of the fourth ventricle, have been reported.3,4 The extent of resection is the only prognostic factor. No adjuvant treatment has been reported except a single case involving brachytherapy.5 The outcome is generally favorable, but the small number of reported cases allows no significant conclusion.

References