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RESEARCH ARTICLE

PARAGANGLIOMA OF NECK IN MIDDLE AGED MALE: A CASE REPORT

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Abstract

Aim: To present a rare case of Paraganglioma of neck in an adult.
Introduction: Paragangliomas of the head and neck represent rare benign tumors of neural crest origin that comprises of <0.5% of all head and neck tumors. A schwannoma, also referred to as neurilemmoma, is relatively uncommon slowly growing benign lesion which originates from peripheral neural sheath of any myelinated nerve. Parapharyngeal space tumours are very rare and account for only 1 % of all head and neck tumours. The clinical presentation of schwannoma varies with the anatomical area involved. Surgical excision has been the treatment of choice and recurrence is very rare.

Methodology: A 24-year, male presented in ENT OPD with the complaints of swelling on the right side of neck since 2 years. On Examination, the patient had a swelling on right side of neck, extending from angle of mandible upto supraclavicular region, 10 x 6 cm in size, ovoid in shape, non-tender, smooth surface, well defined rounded margins & firm in consistency. On CECT Neck, a well circumscribed hypodense mass with poor enhancement not invading surrounding tissue was seen. On MRI-NECK study, a well-defined heterogenous mass on the right-side posterior to carotid vessels, suggestive of neoplastic lesion, mostly neurogenic stroma.

Results: Surgical excision of swelling approximately 9 X 6 cm was performed under general anaesthesia. Conclusions: Schwannoma of the parapharyngeal tumor, should be included in the differential diagnosis of well circumscribed neck mass MRI & CT are highly informative and definitive diagnosis requires histopathological evaluation. From the literature review and experience in our patient, we conclude that in early-stage Cervical paraganglioma with a low risk of surgical complications, primary resection for cure is recommended.

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Introduction:-

Paragangliomas of the head and neck represent rare benign tumors of neural crest origin that comprises of <0.5% of all head and neck tumors [1]. A schwannoma, also referred to as neurilemmoma, is relatively uncommon slowly growing benign lesion which originates from peripheral neural sheath of any myelinated nerve. Parapharyngeal space tumours are very rare and account for only 1 % of all head and neck tumours. The clinical presentation of

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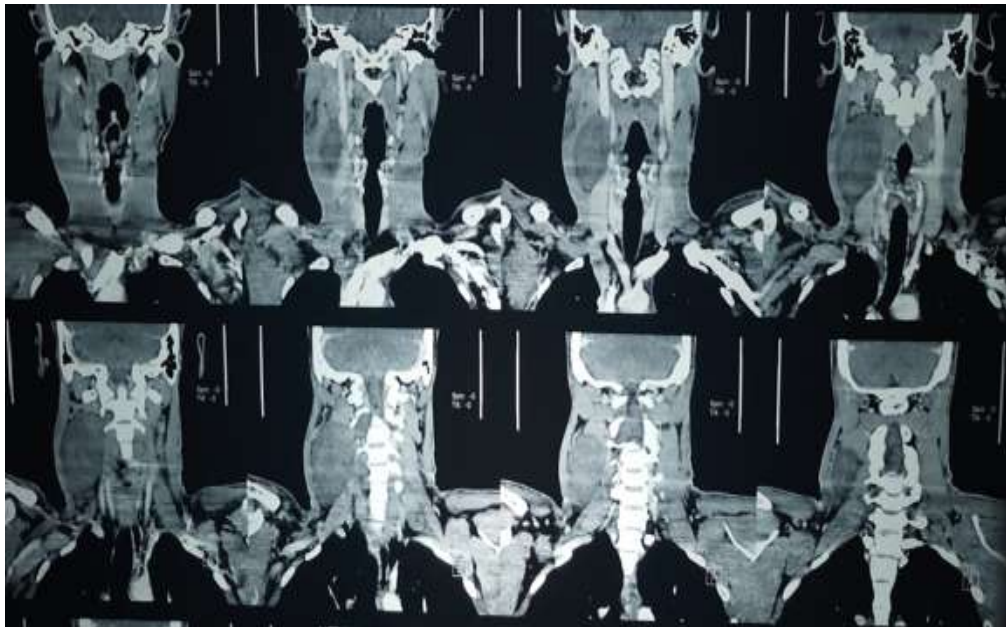
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Case Report

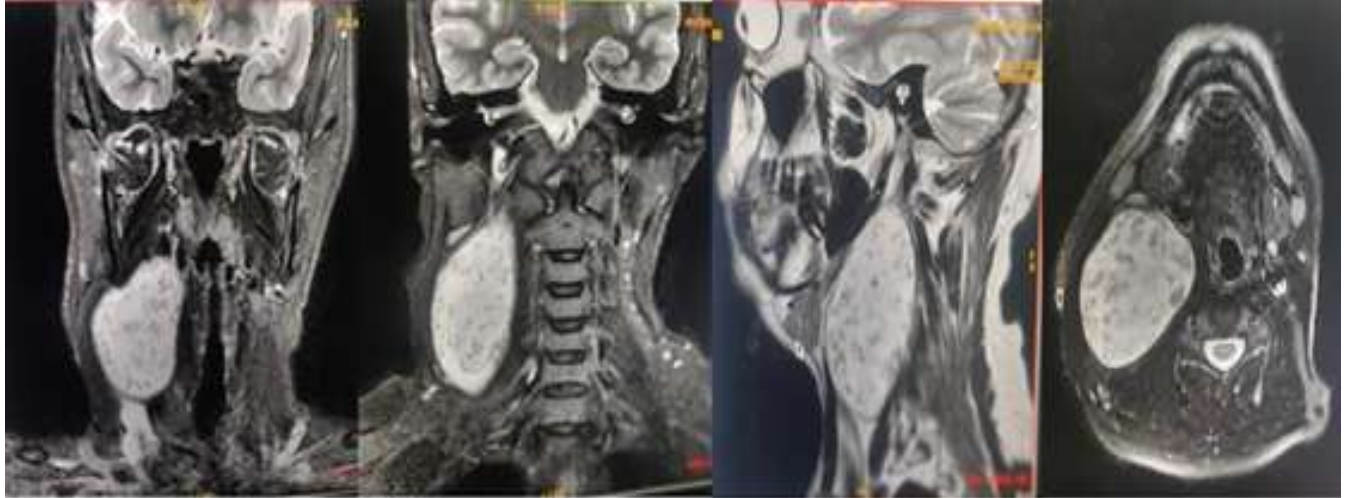
A 24-year, Male, presented in ENT OPD with the complaints of swelling on the right side of neck since 2 years. **On examination**, the patient had a swelling on right side of neck, extending from angle of mandible upto supraclavicular region, approx.10 x 6 cm in size, ovoid in shape, non-tender, smooth surface, well defined rounded margins, firm in consistency, non-fluctuant, non-transluminant, non-compressible, non-reducible. No lymphadenopathy. **On IDL**: Bilateral vocal cord mobile, No definite evidence of any growth.



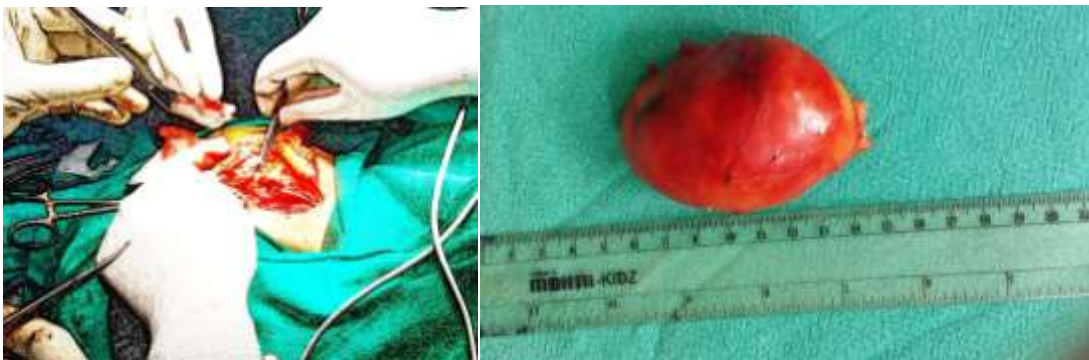
Patient was further investigated. All pre-op routine investigations are within normal limits. **USG neck** showed well defined heterogeneously hypoechoic mass lesion on right side having minimal vascularity. **FNAC** report suggestive of benign spindle cell lesion. **CECT Neck** showed well circumscribed hypodense mass with poor enhancement not invading surrounding tissue.



MRI Neck a well-defined heterogenous mass on the right-side posterior to carotid vessels, suggestive of neoplastic lesion, mostly neurogenic stroma.



Patient was further planned for **surgical excision** in which curvilinear incision given on junction of upper 1/3 and lower 2/3 of neck swelling. Greyish white coloured encapsulated mass (postero-medial to sternocleidomastoid muscle and Postero-lateral to carotid vessels). Capsule of mass is arising from nerve sheath. Mass (approx. 9cm x 6cm) excised; major neurovascular structure was preserved. The post-op period was uneventful. The sample for sent for histopathological examination.



Histopathological examination showed highly cellular area with nuclear palisading and Verocay bodies in Antoni A areas that was suggestive of Schwannoma.

Discussion:-

Schwannoma of the neck is a rare type of Paraganglioma. Patients with cervical paragangliomas frequently present with a painless, slowly enlarging mass in the lateral neck. The involvement of the cranial nerves, especially the vagus and the hypoglossal, occurs in 10% of the cases. These slow growing tumors are mostly benign; however, malignant transformation may occur in up to 10% of cases. Evaluation by an imaging modality is necessary to establish the diagnosis.

Conclusion:-

Schwannoma of the parapharyngeal tumor, should be included in the differential diagnosis of well circumscribed neck mass. MRI & CT are highly informative and definitive diagnosis requires histopathological evaluation. From the literature review [2-8] and experience in our patient, we conclude that in early-stage Cervical paraganglioma with a low risk of surgical complications, primary resection for cure is recommended.

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