Silent Intruder: Navigating the Crossroads of Diagnosis and Treatment of Glomus Jugulare Tumor

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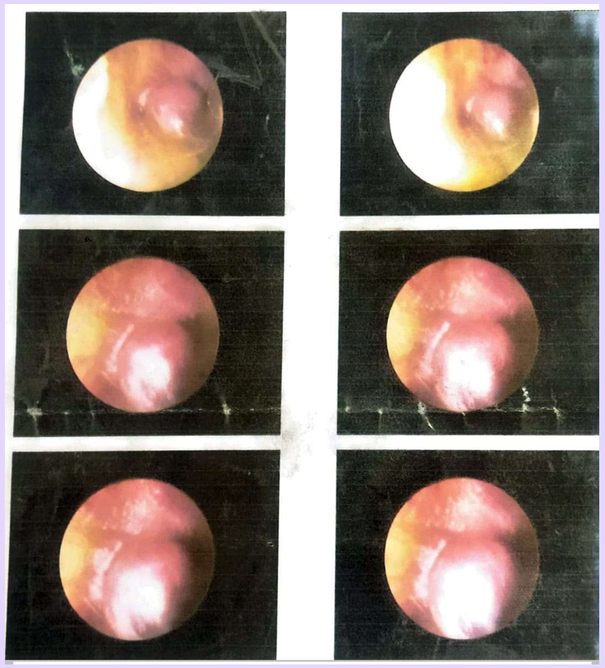
INTRODUCTION

- Paragangliomas are benign and originate from neural crest derivatives, known as the paraganglia.
- Glomus Jugulare tumor is one such rare, benign, slow growing neoplasm arising from the paraganglia cells located in the jugular bulb of the temporal bone.

CASE REPORT

- A 45-year-old female presented with complaints of right ear ringing sensation and reduced hearing since 4 months which was insidious in onset, gradually progressive, continuous and low pitch. It is associated with aural fullness.

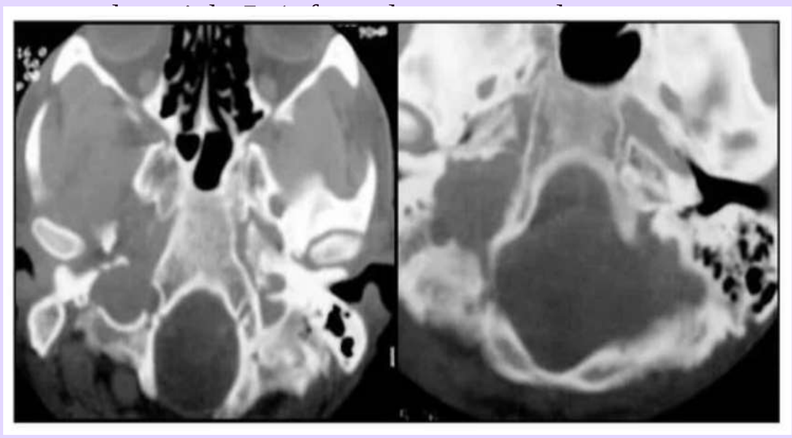


- A pinkish fleshy pulsatile mass appears to be obstructing the EAC in the bony part. Margins are free except the anterior and inferior aspect. Rinne's test negative (for right ear) and Weber's Test lateralized to the right.

- HRCT of Temporal Bone : Tumour noted at the right temporal bone around the jugular foramen with erosive changes of the bone projecting towards the medial aspect of the bony EAC.

DISCUSSION

- The differential diagnosis includes schwannoma and neuroma of lower cranial nerves.
- 80% of the cases are sporadic.
- The incidence is 1 case per 1.3 million



- The surgical approach can have the following complications: Hoarseness, Dysphagia, and facial weakness.
- Post operatively right sided facial weakness of HB Grade 4 was noticed and managed conservatively.

- It is an intermediate level of impairment which is noticeable.
- Characterized by some asymmetry at rest and impaired or less coordinated facial movements.

MANAGEMENT

- Due to the size of the tumor, its location, involvement of the surrounding structures and its symptomatic nature surgical resection was deemed the most appropriate treatment option.
- Right cortical mastoidectomy under general anesthesia was performed.
- In the EAC, a fleshy red mass was identified arising from the floor of the middle ear. The attachments to ossicles were removed and was dissected by doing a limited atticotomy. Hemostasis was achieved by placing gel foam soaked with sodium tetradecyl sulphate.

CONCLUSION

- These tumors are rare and present clinical challenges due to their location and vascularity .
- Early diagnosis and a tailored multidisciplinary management plan are crucial for improving patient outcomes and minimizing complications.