

Abstract 154

BILATERAL PAPILLEDEMA ASSOCIATED WITH RETINAL HEMORRHAGIC APPEARANCE AS EARLIEST SIGN OF SPINAL CORD TUMOR

Poster

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Purpose:

To report a case of a 57-years-old female patient who presented with prominent bilateral proptosis and swollen disks.

Methods:

A 57-year-old obese patient admitted to our ophthalmic department complaining of bilateral sense of eye swelling and mild blurring vision. The anterior segment and pupillary reflex were normal on ophthalmological testing. Likewise, eye movements were preserved and she did not report diplopia in any position of gaze. Dilated fundus examination revealed bilateral hemorrhagic papilledema, pre-retinal hemorrhages in both eyes, dot and blot hemorrhages in the peripheral retina. Visual acuity was 20/20 in bot eyes.

Results:

Routine hematological investigations revealed increased both Von Willebrand factor and ristocetin factor and LAC positivity. The lumbar puncture (LP) showed elevated cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) proteins. Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) with contrast of brain and spinal cord showed signs of intracranial hypertension and the presence of two lesions in continuity with each other respectively located at T12-L1 and L1-L2. Radiologic features were compatible with the diagnosis of shwannoma. A surgical procedure was conducted and confirmed the diagnosis after anatomical pathology analysis.

Conclusions:

Although rare, bilateral hemorrhagic swollen disks could be an early sign of spinal cord tumors, in particular shwannomas.