ADULTHOOD GERM CELL TUMOR – A CASE REPORT





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INTRODUCTION

Germ cell tumors (GCTs) are classified as extragonadal if there is no evidence of a primary tumor in the gonads. They typically occur in the midline structures. Newly diagnosed adult cases of pituitary or pineal glands germinomas are very rare since most of the cases are diagnosed in the mid teens, presenting 14:1, on behalf of the male gender. The estimated incidence of this tumor in western countries is between 0.4-3.4%, being more frequent in the Asia.

25-year-old male, healthy **DEC/05**

MAR/07

AUG/07

OCT/07

MAY/08

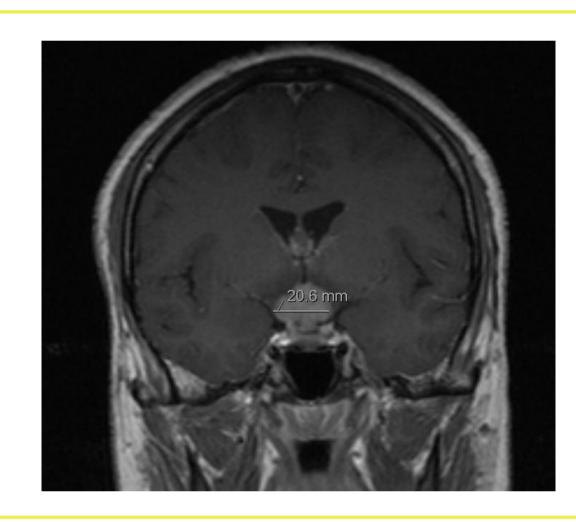
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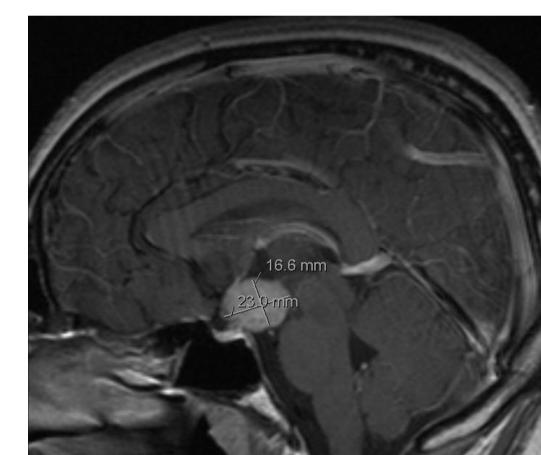
Complaints of lack of energy, asthenia, decreased body hair, decreased libido and erectile dysfunction, with no ejaculate.

Observed by Urology, carried out thyroid function and was medicated with levothyroxine 100mcg/day.

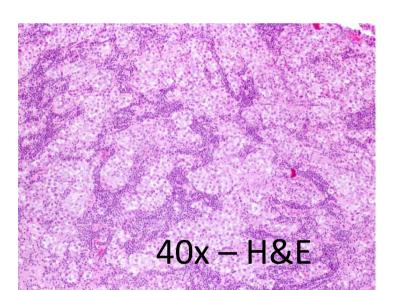
Referred to Endocrinology consultation. Decreased hairiness (axillary, trunk and beard) and decreased testicular volume, without other major changes on physical exam.

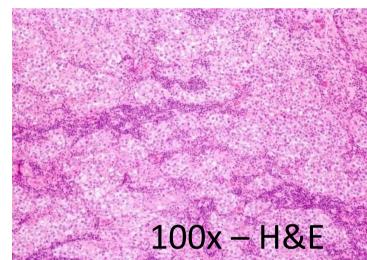
- Headaches and blurred left vision. The patient was observed by Ophthalmology, which diagnosed bitemporal hemianopsia.
- Hormonal tests revealed hypopituitarism.
- Pituitary MRI revealed a bulky suprasellar lesion with 16x23x20mm. Referred to Neurosurgery consultation.

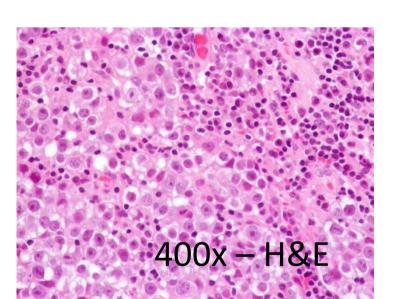


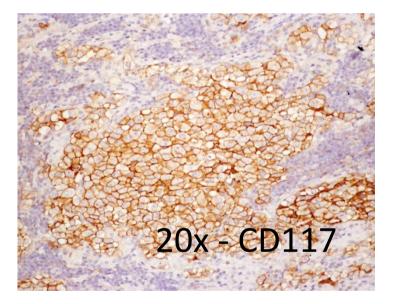


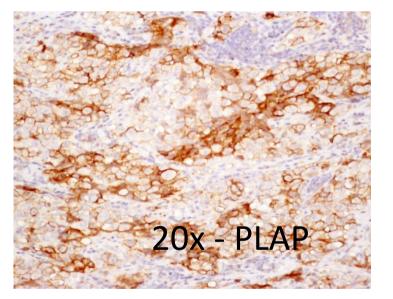
Underwent pituitary surgery with near total resection, because of proximity to the optic chiasm. The histological exam revealed germ cell tumour. According to the radiosensitive of these tumours treatment was completed with external radiotherapy.











After surgery, the hormonal evaluation showed panhypopituitarism and diabetes insipidus.

Insulin-induced Hypoglycemia **TRH+LHRH Stimulation Test**

	0'	15'	30'	60'	90'	120'
Cortisol (µg/dL)	0.4	0,4	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3
ACTH (pg/mL)	<5.0	5.2	<5.0	<5.0	<5.0	<5.0
STH (ng/mL)	0.10	0.14	0.20	0.09	0.09	0.11
FSH (mUI/mL)	< 0.05	< 0.05	< 0.05	<0.05	< 0.05	< 0.05
LH (mUI/mL)	< 0.07	<0.07	0.07	0.07	<0.07	0.07
PRL (ng/mL)	33.4	57.6	54.5	38.0	33.2	34.7
TSH (μUI/mL)	0.02	0.12	0.20	0.17	0.14	0.11
Glucose (g/L)	0.73	0.57	0.38	0.60	0.71	0.74

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The patient remains clinically stable, on hormonal replacement therapy (levothyroxine 100µg id, prednisolone 5mg id, testosterone 250mg/month, desmopressin 0.1mg id)and without evidence of recurrence.

CONCLUSION

- We present this case due to its rarity in adulthood, because of its location and also due to its multifaceted clinical presentation requiring multidisciplinary assessment.
- The cranial location requires surgical treatment which is often near total resection, because of risk of surgical complications. Therefore, radiation therapy is usually necessary. Intracranial germinomas have a reported 90% five years survival, so follow-up should be extensive.