Predictive value of CT in the diagnosis of nasopharyngeal angiofibroma

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[Foundation Project]: Hainan Medical University Scientific Research Fund Supported Project of the Journal (0020100378)
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Received: 2010-09-09 Revised: 2010-09-25

JHMC, 2010; 16(10): 1360-1362

View from specialist: It is creative, and of certain scientific and educational value.

[ABSTRACT] Objective: To explore the diagnosis value of CT in the nasopharyngeal angiofibroma. Methods: Data of 14 cases of nasopharyngeal angiofibroma confirmed by surgery and pathological examination were retrospectively analyzed, including tumor size, density, location, contrast enhancement and sclerotin involvement. Results: According to Chandler classification, 3 out of the 14 cases were evaluated as stage II, 9 cases were stage III and 2 cases were stage IV. Nasopharyngeal angiofibroma were shown as expanding lesions with dense matrix of 32-61 HU in regular CT, and 80-130 HU in contrast enhanced CT. It was also shown that pterygopalatine fossa were expanded, posterior wall of maxillary sinus were pressed forward, surrounding sclerotin were molded or broken. Skull base invasion through intracranial holes or cracks was shown in 5 cases. Conclusion: Enhanced CT scan could be used for making definite diagnosis, preoperative stage evaluation, and chemotherapy guidance because it shows locations and erosion status of nasopharyngeal angiofibroma.

[KEY WORDS] Nasopharyngeal angiofibroma; X-ray Computed tomography; Diagnosis