

# Intraparotid Facial Nerve Schwannoma (about one case)

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**Abstract:** Facial nerve schwannoma occurring within the parotid gland is a rare tumor. We report a case of schwannoma within the parotid gland in a 58 year old patient, who has presented a mass in the region for 10 years. right parotid gland (figure 1) gradually increasing in size, painless, complicated by grade IV Peripheral facial palsy (figure 2).The cervico-facial CT (figure 3) objectified the deep character of the tumor with an L-shaped aspect along the path of the facial. Craniofacial MRI (figure 4) revealed a tumor process at the expense of both lobes with invasion of the posterior cerebral fossa. The patient underwent a biopsy with an anatomo-pathological study completed by an immunohistochemical study confirming the diagnosis of facial schwannoma, the decision to the staff of multidisciplinary consultation meeting was to do exclusive radiotherapy.

**Keywords:** Parotid, Facial nerve, Schwannoma

## INTRODUCTION

Schwannomas are benign tumors that develop from Schwann cells. These are rare tumors and their intra-parotid localization is rare. We report the case of a patient with intraparotid schwannoma with a review of the literature.

## CASE REPORT

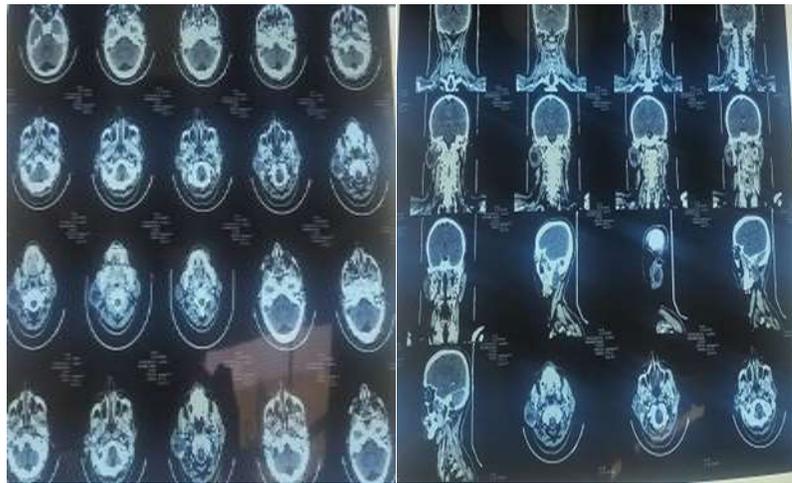
A 58 year-old patient, with no particular pathological history, who has presented a mass in the region for 10 years. right parotid gland (figure 1) gradually increasing in size, painless, complicated by grade IV Peripheral Facial Palsy (figure 2).The cervico-facial CT (figure 3) objectified the deep character of the tumor with an L-shaped aspect along the path of the facial. Craniofacial MRI (figure 4) revealed a tumor process at the expense of both lobes with invasion of the posterior cerebral fossa. The patient underwent a biopsy with an anatomo-pathological study completed by an immunohistochemical study confirming the diagnosis of facial schwannoma. Patient presented to the staff of the RCP, the decision was to do exclusive radiotherapy.



Fig (1) : the scar from the biopsy



Fig (2) :PFV grade IV



**Axial and coronal cervico-facial CT scan of the right parotid tissue process**



**Axial and crânio-facial MRI: invasion of the FCP**

### **Discussion**

Schwannoma is a benign nerve tumor. If 25 to 40% of cases are located at the level of the skull and the neck, localization at the level of the intraparotid facial nerve is rare. About sixty cases have been described in the literature, i.e. 0.2 to 1.5% of cases (1).

The clinical symptomatology is not specific. Painful parotid swelling is the most common mode of discovery, but in 20% of cases the leading sign is facial paralysis (2). The main clinical feature of schwannoma is its slow progression, with an average of 8.4 years from onset of symptoms to diagnosis (3). The ideal course of action remains debated: conservative treatment or surgical excision. Thus, some authors recommend, for patients without facial paralysis, clinical monitoring, given the benignity and low potential of the tumor. In the event of progressive or sudden facial paralysis, resection of the tumor is indicated without delay (4, 5).

### **Conclusion**

Intraparotid facial nerve schwannoma is exceptional. It is characterized by its slow evolution and a non-specific

radiological appearance. Surgical excision can damage the facial nerve, but it is indicated in cases of sudden or progressive facial paralysis.

## References

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