

Pineal region tumors profile

in Hasan Sadikin Hospital Bandung 2003-2006

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Pineal region tumor was more common in children 3-8% of pediatric brain tumor than in adults < 1%. They could be solid or cystic parts, and also an origin itself in each pineal tumor were different. The pineal gland is located next to the aqueduct of Sylvius which serves as a passage allowing cerebrospinal fluid to leave the center of the brain where it is first produced. Pineal tumor may often compress this aqueduct, causing the build up of cerebrospinal fluid in the brain, also known as hydrocephalus. The blockage of this fluid may cause some of the common presenting symptoms of these tumors, including headache, nausea and vomiting, seizures, memory disturbances, and visual changes. The incidence of hydrocephalus in pineal region tumor about 90%.

There were 13 patients with this tumor in last four years at Hasan Sadikin Hospital (January 2003-October 2006), there were 9 Male (69,3%) and 4 female (31,7%). All of them were come with hydrocephalus and we treated immediately VP shunt. The tumor treatment with trial dose radiation therapy in 10 patients (76,9%), supracerebellar infratentorial approach in 2 patients (15,3%) and cystoperitoneal shunt in 1 patient (7,8%).

From all of the patients we reported 9 patients (69,2%) was survive with good condition, 1 patient with infection (7,6%), 1 patient with CSF seeding metastasis (7,6%) and 2 patients were died (15,6%).

Keywords: Pineal region tumor, aqueduct of Sylvius, hydrocephalus, supracerebellar infratentorial approach, CSF seeding metastasis.