

Clinical Article

Intracranial Meningioma with Leptomeningeal Dissemination : Retrospective Study with Review of the Literature

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Objective : The purposes of this article are to present 5 cases of intracranial meningioma with leptomeningeal dissemination (LD) and investigate the characteristics of this disease.

Methods : We present a retrospective case series of 5 females at our institutions (age ranged 21–72 years, mean 54.6 years) diagnosed with LD of an intracranial meningioma after surgery between 1998 and 2013. A database search revealed 45 cases with LD of meningioma in the English literature. Characteristic features were analyzed and compared.

Results : The incidence rate at our institutions of LD of meningioma was 0.9% (5/534). World Health Organization (WHO) grade was distributed as follows: I : 2, II : 2, and III : 1. Time to LD ranged from 2.5 months to 6.9 years; the patient with WHO grade III had the shortest interval to LD. The patient with an intraventricular meningioma (WHO grade II) had the second shortest interval to LD (1.7 years), and simultaneously revealed both LD and extraneuronal metastases. Four of 5 patients showed a disease progression, with the survival ranging from 1 month to 3.8 years after LD. Based on the literature, the initial tumor was an intraventricular meningioma in 9 patients, and their time to LD was shorter on average (mean 1.9 years). Histologically, 26 of 45 (58%) were initially diagnosed with a WHO grade II or III meningioma, and 6 of 19 patients (32%) with WHO grade I revealed malignant transformation.

Conclusion : This study shows that intraventricular location and histologically aggressive features seem to increase the chance of LD of meningioma.

Key Words : Meningioma · Leptomeningeal carcinomatosis · Intraventricular · Malignant.

INTRODUCTION

Intracranial meningiomas account for 15 to 20% of all primary brain tumors, and most of them are benign [World Health Organization (WHO) grade I]⁴⁶. Aggressive (WHO grade II) or malignant (WHO grade III) meningiomas overall constitute less than 10% of meningiomas, and they are rarely associated with distant metastases^{37,50}. If metastases are found, the sites are usually the liver, lungs, pleura, and lymph nodes^{1,4,15,34,43}. This finding suggests that distant metastases usually occur through a blood-borne route. However, some leptomeningeal disseminations (LDs) of intracranial meningioma through cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) have been reported in the literature^{1,2,5,7-10,13,14,16-27,29,34-36,39,42-45,47-49}. In this report, we summarized our experience

with 5 intracranial meningiomas with LD through CSF and reviewed the relevant literature to evaluate the characteristics of patients with LD and discuss predisposing factors.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Between 1998 and 2013, 5 patients with intracranial meningiomas demonstrated evidence of LD through CSF at our institutions. We retrospectively reviewed the medical records, imaging studies, and histopathological findings to determine the general features of the patients, presentation of LD, possible predisposing factors, treatment, and outcomes.

We also reviewed PubMed, Medline, Embase, and ISI Web of Knowledge using the keywords 'meningioma,' 'cerebrospinal

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fluid, 'leptomeningeal', 'dissemination' and 'metastasis'. All articles were reviewed, and relevant articles were collected. Forty-five cases of LD through CSF were found from 36 articles since 1950. All cases were reviewed using the same protocol from our own series.

RESULTS

General features

Five in 534 consecutive patients with a surgically resected intracranial meningioma at our institutions were confirmed to have a meningioma with LD. Therefore, the incidence of LD was 0.9% (5/534). Clinical data are summarized in Table 1. All patients were female, with age ranging from 21 to 72 years (mean age, 54.6 years). Initial tumors were located in the posterior fossa in two cases, and the parasagittal region, sphenoidal ridge and lateral ventricle in one, respectively. The mean maximal diameter of the tumor was 4.1 cm (range, 3.6 to 5.2 cm). All patients had undergone surgery and achieved grossly total tumor resection (Simpson grade 1 or 2) before LD.

Histological analysis

All histological specimens after the first operation confirmed a meningioma, and subtypes were assigned following the WHO classification in accordance with histological features and the mitotic index. Pathological examinations demonstrated two cases each of WHO grade I and II, respectively, and one case of WHO grade III (Table 1). There was immunoreactivity for epithelial membrane antigen and vimentin in all patients. The values of Ki-67 labelling index (LI) ranged from less than 5% to 25%.

Leptomeningeal dissemination

The mean time to local recurrence after the first surgery was 2.3 years (range, 2.5 months–6.9 years) and the mean time to LD after the first surgery was 2.9 years (range, 2.5 months–6.9 years) (Table 2). Three of five cases had local recurrence and LD occur at the same time. Interestingly, the patient with a malignant meningioma (WHO grade III) had the shortest interval to LD (2.5 months).

Intracranial LD was seen in all cases, and two cases among them additionally showed spinal LD. One patient with intracranial and spinal LD had an intraventricular meningioma and showed multiple extraneuronal metastases, including areas of the skull base, rib and pelvic bone.

Four patients underwent a second surgery for local recurrence or metastatic tumors. Three patients had to receive additional radiotherapy or Gamma-Knife radiosurgery. After a second operation, three pathologic examinations revealed the same findings as the initial specimens, and there was one case of histologically aggressive transformation from WHO grade I to II.

Overall survival ranged from 3.5 months to 10.7 years with a mean of 4.9 years, and survival after LD ranged from 1 month to 3.8 years with a mean of 2.4 years. Four patients showed disease progression and eventually died from the disease. One patient initially with WHO grade I was still alive and stable at 2 years follow-up.

Possible predisposing factors

Because of relatively small sample size and incomplete data from the literature, it was impossible to perform adequately statistical analysis and validate the predicting variables including gender, age, treatments, tumor location and grading. However,

Table 1. Summary of 5 patients with leptomeningeal dissemination of meningioma

Case No.	Sex/age	Primary site	Maximal diameter (cm)	Prior therapy	Simpson grade	WHO grade (Ki-67 LI)
1	F/21	Cerebellopontine angle	4.1	1 surgery+RT	2	III (25%)
2	F/47	Sphenoidal ridge	3.6	2 surgeries	2	I (5%)
3	F/62	Lateral ventricle, trigone	5.2	1 sugery	1	II (10%)
4	F/71	Parasagittal	4.1	1 surgery+RT	2	II (5%)
5	F/72	Petroclival	3.8	1 surgery	1	I (<5%)

No. : number, F : female, RT : radiotherapy, LI : labelling index

Table 2. Characteristic findings of leptomeningeal dissemination of meningioma in 5 patients

Case No.	Histological transformation	Metastases		Time to local recurrence	Time to CSF disease presentation	Treatment	Progression	OS/survival after LD	Death
		Cerebrospinal	Extraneuronal						
1	-	Suprasellar, posterior fossa, spinal	-	2.5 mo	2.5 mo	Surgery	PD	3.5/1 mo	Death
2	+(I→II)	Both convexity	-	4 mo	1.8 yr	GK	SD	2.3/2 yr	Alive
3	-	Cavernous sinus, cervicomedullary, cerebellar convexity, spinal	Skull base, ribs, spines, pelvic bones	1.7 yr	1.7 yr	Surgery+ GK+RT	PD	4.3/2.5 yr	Death
4	-	Sylvian cistern	-	2.1 yr	3.8 yr	Surgery	PD	7.3/3.5 yr	Death
5	Unknowability	Suprasellar, ambient cistern	-	6.9 yr	6.9 yr	GK	PD	10.7/3.8 yr	Death

No. : number, RT : radiotherapy, GK : Gamma-Knife radiosurgery, PD : progression disease, SD : stable disease, mo : months, yr : years, LD : leptomeningeal dissemination, CSF : cerebrospinal fluid, OS : overall survival

Table 3. Literature review of cases of meningioma with leptomeningeal dissemination through CSF

No.	Yr	Authors	Sex/age	Surgery No.	Primary site	Histology	Metastasis				Time to CSF presentation
							Intracranial	Cranial nerve	Spinal	Extraneuronal	
1	1950	Kalm ²⁷⁾	M/48	0	Tentorium	III	+	-	+	-	UN
2	1954	Winkelman ²⁷⁾	F/60	1	Sphenoidal ridge	I	+(ventricle)	-	-	-	UN
3	1960	Hoffman et al. ²⁷⁾	F/39	3	F-P convexity	I→III	+	-	+	-	UN
4	1963	Russell et al. ²⁷⁾	M/78	1	Foramen magnum	I	+	-	-	-	UN
5	1970	Shuanghoti et al. ²⁷⁾	F/21	2	Occipital convexity	III	-	-	+	+	UN
6	1971	Riley et al. ²⁷⁾	F/38	4	Occipital convexity	I→III	-	-	+	-	UN
7	1972	Miller and Ramsden ³⁰⁾	M/45	2	Frontal convexity	III	+(ventricle)	+	+	-	UN
8	1975	Ludwin and Conley ²⁷⁾	M/53	1	Bifrontal convexity	III	+	-	+	-	10 mo
9	1985	Kleinschmidt-DeMasters and Avakian ³⁰⁾	M/34	3	Lateral ventricle	III	+	-	+	-	1.7 yr
10	1987	Strenger et al. ⁴⁵⁾	UN	1	Third ventricle	III	+	-	-	-	1.5 mo
11	1989	Kamiya et al. ¹⁷⁾	M/67	2	Lateral ventricle	III	-	-	+	-	6 mo
12	1992	Akimura et al. ¹⁾	F/53	5	Frontal convexity	III	+	-	+	-	1.8 yr
13	1992	Satoh et al. ⁴³⁾	M/36	0	Multiple basal cistern	I	+	-	+	-	0
14	1993	Greenberg et al. ¹⁶⁾	M/8	1	Lateral ventricle	III	+	-	+	-	2 mo
15	1995	Peh and Fan ³⁵⁾	F/34	3	Lateral ventricle	III	+	-	+	-	5 yr
16	1998	Lee and Landy ²³⁾	M/59	2	Frontal convexity	III	+	-	+	-	1.5 yr
17			M/65	3	Petroclival	I	+	-	+	-	3.8 yr
18			M/39	5	Frontal convexity	III	-	-	+	-	8.5 yr
19	2000	Lee et al. ²⁵⁾	M/17	3	Parietal convexity	III	+(ventricle)	-	+	-	9 yr
20	2000	Meinsma-vdTuin et al. ²⁹⁾	M/19	2	C2-4 intradural	III	+	-	+	-	6 mo
21	2001	Conrad et al. ⁸⁾	F/31	6	Frontal convexity	I→II→III	+	-	+	-	6.4 yr
22	2002	Ramakrishnamurthy et al. ³⁹⁾	F/22	2	Lateral ventricle	I	+	-	-	-	4 yr
23	2005	Darwish et al. ¹⁰⁾	F/53	3	Lateral ventricle	II→III	+	-	+	-	7 mo
24	2005	Koenig et al. ²¹⁾	F/26	1	Temporal lobe	III	-	-	+	-	1 mo
25	2005	Wakabayashi et al. ⁴⁸⁾	F/12	1	Frontal convexity	III	+	-	-	-	13 yr
26	2005	Chamberlain and Glantz ⁹⁾	M/54	3	ND	I	+	+	-	+	ND
27			F/48	2	ND	I	+	+	+	+	ND
28			F/50	2	ND	I	+	+	+	+	ND
29			F/63	2	ND	I	+	+	-	+	ND
30			F/24	5	ND	I	+	-	+	-	ND
31			F/78	1	ND	I	+	-	+	-	ND
32			F/87	1	ND	I	+	-	+	+	ND
33			M/44	4	ND	I	+	+	-	+	ND
34	2005	Al-Habib et al. ²⁾	F/27	1	UN	III	+	-	+	-	2 mo
35	2005	Cramer et al. ⁹⁾	M/23	2	C1-3 intradural	II	-	-	+	-	1.4 yr
36	2006	Chuang et al. ⁷⁾	M/52	2	Frontal convexity	III	-	-	+	-	3 mo
37	2007	Shintaku et al. ⁴⁴⁾	F/61	3	Lateral ventricle	I→III	+	-	-	-	4.3 yr
38	2008	Santhosh et al. ⁴²⁾	M/21	2	Temporal convexity	III	+	-	+	-	9 mo
39	2008	Erkutlu et al. ¹⁴⁾	M/29	2	Posterior fossa	III	-	-	+	-	2.7 yr
40	2009	Eom et al. ¹³⁾	F/42	3	Lateral ventricle	II→III	-	-	+	-	1.3 yr
41	2009	Kuroda et al. ²²⁾	F/48	7	Cerebello-pontine angle	I→II→III	+	-	+	-	6.3 yr
42	2011	Peng et al. ³⁶⁾	F/20	1	Medial temporal	III	+	-	+	-	2 yr
43	2011	Kim et al. ¹⁹⁾	M/43	1	Occipital falcotentorium	III	+	-	+	-	0
44	2011	Wu et al. ⁴⁹⁾	F/49	2	Convexity	III	+	-	-	-	1.7 yr
45	2013	Tsuda et al. ⁴⁷⁾	F/29	2	T10-11 intradural	I→II	-	-	+	-	12 yr

UN : unknowability, ND : no description, mo : months, yr : years, CSF : cerebrospinal fluid

possible factors that may predispose meningiomas to leptomeningeal dissemination were evaluated.

No patients in this series had an association with neurofibromatosis or familial disease. All of them received surgery before the LD. Although the Ki-67 LI varied, 3 out of 5 (60%) showed aggressive and malignant histological features, and one patient in particular had a histological transformation from WHO grade I to II. In addition, one patient with a primary intraventricular meningioma concurrently manifested intracranial and spinal LD and extraneuronal metastases.

Based on the literature (Table 3), the initial location of meningiomas with LD was reported in 36 cases and was distributed as follows: convexity (14 cases, 39%), intraventricular (9 cases, 25%), posterior fossa (6 cases, 17%), and other (7 cases, 19%). With regard to time to LD, intraventricular meningiomas (mean 23.6 months, range from 1.5 months to 5 years) showed a shorter time interval compared to other intracranial (mean 39.2 months, range from 0 to 13 years) and spinal meningiomas (mean 55.6 months, range from 6 months to 12 years).

Histologically, 26 out of 45 cases (58%) were either WHO grade II (3 cases) or III (23 cases). Additionally, 8 cases were confirmed as histologic transformations (6 cases, from WHO grade I to II or III; 2 cases, from WHO grade II to III).

Illustrative cases

Case 1

A 23-year-old female presented with mild headache and nausea for 2 weeks. Neurological examination was unremarkable. Brain magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) revealed a 4.1-cm-diameter meningioma on right cerebellopontine angle (Fig. 1A). She underwent craniotomy and removal of tumor (Simpson grade II resection) (Fig. 1B). Histopathological findings demonstrated a malignant meningioma (WHO grade III). Adjuvant radiotherapy (54 Gy in 1.8 Gy daily fractions) was performed. Approximately 2.5 months later, follow-up MRI showed the local recurrence (Fig. 1C) and new lesions in the posterior fossa, suprasellar and spinal region (Fig. 1D). Spinal MRI revealed multiple leptomeningeal disseminations (Fig. 1E). She underwent a second surgery for a suprasellar tumor and additional radiotherapy was scheduled, but she was dead one month after surgery.

Case 2

A 47-year-old female was transferred to our hospital for further evaluation of a 3.6-cm-sized extraaxial mass on a left sphenoidal ridge that was discovered

on computed tomography (CT). She complained of a headache, but neurological exam was unremarkable. MRI showed a left sphenoidal ridge meningioma (Fig. 2A). Surgery was performed (Simpson grade II resection), and a histopathological finding demonstrated WHO grade I. Four months later, brain MRI showed the local recurrence (Fig. 2B) and a second surgery was performed. The second pathological examination confirmed the histological transformation (from WHO grade I to II). Approximately 18 months later, follow-up MRI revealed multiple meningiomas around bilateral convexity (Fig. 2C, D). Gamma-Knife radiosurgery was performed for multiple masses. Now 2 months after radiosurgery, clinical course of the patient was uneventful.

Case 3

A 62-year-old female presented with dizziness and tingling sense on right limbs for several months. Neurological exam revealed paresthesia on right face and limbs. MRI showed a 5.2-cm-diameter meningioma in the trigone of the left lateral ventricle (Fig. 3A). She underwent surgery (Simpson grade I resection) and a histopathological finding revealed an atypical meningioma. Approximately 1.7 years later, brain MRI showed the local recurrence (Fig. 3B) and new lesions in the right cavernous sinus and posterior fossa (Fig. 3C). Gamma-Knife radiosurgery was administered to the local recurrence and cavernous sinus lesion. And, a second surgery for posterior fossa tumors and focal radiotherapy were performed additionally (Fig. 3D). Four months later, positron emission tomography-CT showed multiple extraneuronal metastases in the skull base, ribs, spines and pelvic bone (Fig. 3E). Spinal MRI revealed multiple leptomeningeal disseminations (Fig. 3F). Approximately 30 months after

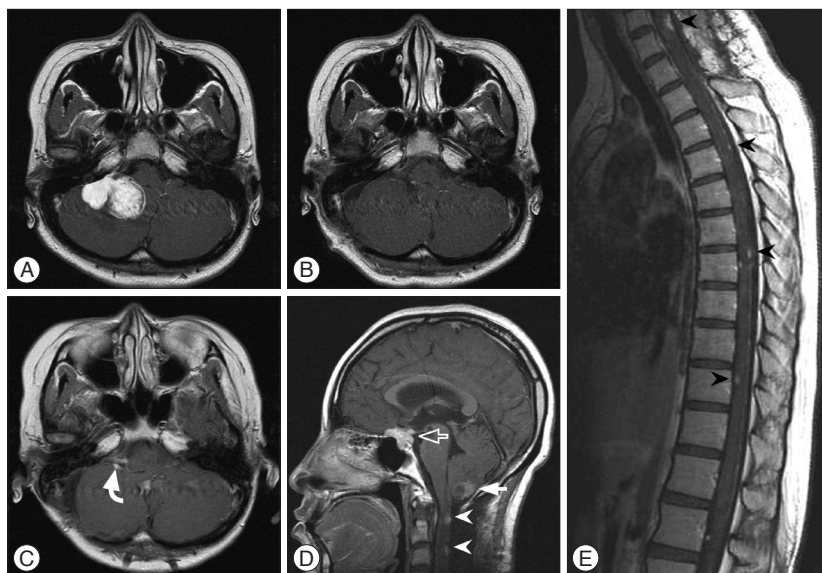


Fig. 1. A : Preoperative enhanced magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) showing a right cerebellopontine angle meningioma. B : Postoperative MRI displaying Simpson grade II resection of the tumor. C and D : Approximately 2.5 months later, follow-up MRI revealing the local recurrence (curved arrow) and new lesions in the posterior fossa (closed arrow), suprasellar (open arrow) and spinal region (arrowheads). E : Spinal MRI demonstrating multiple leptomeningeal disseminations (arrowheads).

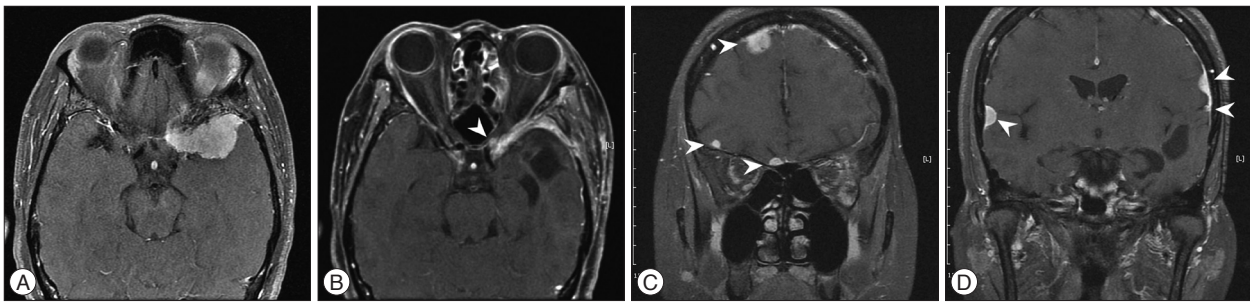


Fig. 2. A : Preoperative MRI displaying a left sphenoidal ridge meningioma. B : Four months later, MRI showing the local recurrence (arrowhead). C and D : Approximately 18 months later, MRI revealing multiple meningiomas around bilateral convexity (arrowheads).

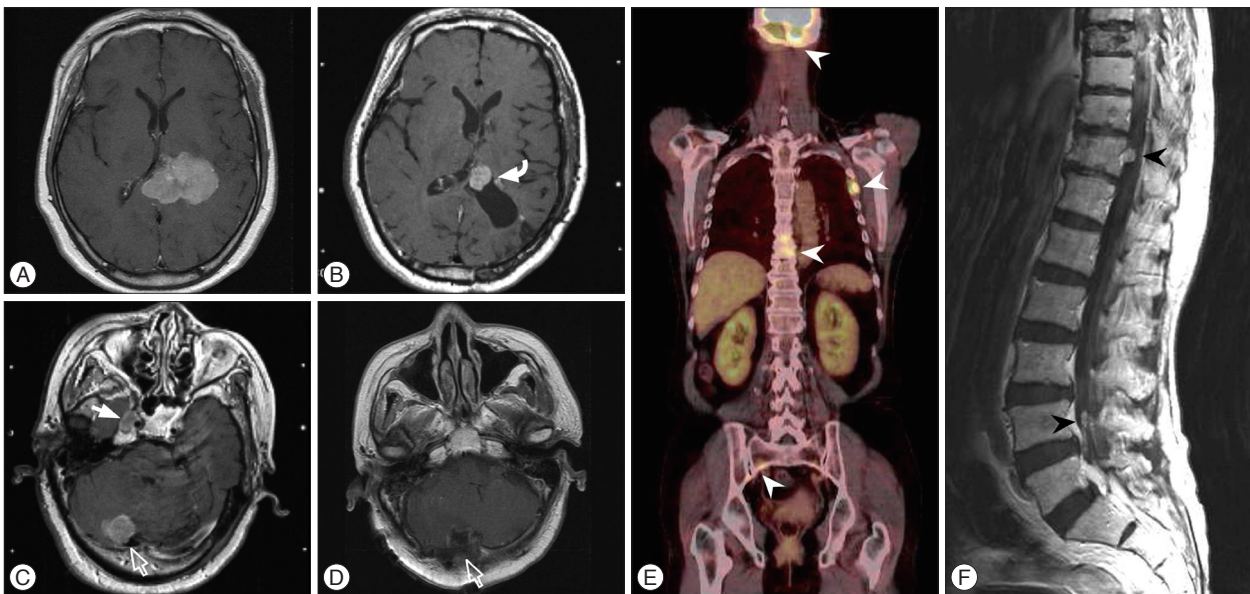


Fig. 3. A : Preoperative MRI demonstrating a meningioma in the trigone of the left lateral ventricle. B : Approximately 1.7 years later, brain MRI showing the local recurrence (curved arrow). C : New lesions in the right cavernous sinus (closed arrow) and posterior fossa (open arrow) on enhanced MRI. D : Postoperative MRI after a second surgery for posterior fossa (open arrow). E : Four months later, positron emission tomography-CT showing multiple extraneuronal metastases in the skull base, ribs, spines and pelvic bone (arrowheads). F : Spinal MRI revealing leptomeningeal dissemination (arrowheads).

leptomeningeal dissemination, she was dead.

DISCUSSION

Distant metastases of meningiomas are rare, and most have been reported to occur from malignant (WHO grade 3) tumors¹². The pathways of metastases are various. The most common destinations for metastasis are the liver, lungs, pleura, and lymph nodes, which indicates that a hematogenous route through the jugular vein may be the most frequent pathway for metastasis¹¹. Less common are metastases through the paravertebral venous plexus, lymphatic vessels and cerebrospinal fluid, which are reported in a small minority of cases. Particularly, metastases through CSF are extremely rare¹³. However, considering that meningiomas arise from the arachnoid villi, tela choroidea or leptomeninges, and are naturally exposed to CSF during their growth or at the time of surgical intervention, it is difficult to explain the rarity of LD through CSF.

Since 1950, only 45 cases of postoperative LD of meningioma through CSF have been reported in the literature (Table 3). Despite the extreme rarity of LD of meningioma, CSF is a certain route for meningioma dissemination. Russell and Rubinstein⁴¹ reported that CSF should be expected to provide a good culture medium for tumor cells, and it is apparent that tumor friability may play a great role in determining the potential for CSF dissemination. Chamberlain and Glantz⁵ also reported a large study regarding LD through CSF in 2005. Two hundred meningiomas were followed in their prospective study (median time, 8.5 years). Eight out of 200 patients (4%) had LD and positive CSF cytology.

In light of the physiologic pathways involving CSF, the risk of intraventricular meningiomas to metastasize to leptomeninges should be high. However, only 9 cases with intraventricular meningiomas were described in the literature. Miller and Ramsden³⁰ conjectured the dynamics of the CSF system might prevent fragment formation and the settlement of tumor cells. However,

considering the number of intraventricular meningiomas with LD and the rarity of meningioma metastases, 9 cases (25% of 36 cases where initial location was reported) represent a relatively significant sample size. And, as mentioned above, time to LD involving intraventricular meningiomas is the shortest when compared to other intracranial and spinal meningiomas. These findings suggest that the ventricular location is an important site for the LD through CSF of meningiomas.

Histologically, several factors are predictive for the metastasis of meningiomas, according to the literature. They include characteristic features of the malignant tumor, such as high cellularity, cellular heterogeneity, high mitosis rate, nuclear pleomorphism, tumor necrosis, and invasion of adjacent blood vessels^{12,15}. Although these factors do not explain metastasis of benign meningiomas, the proportion of malignant meningiomas with LD is high when compared to the general proportion of subtypes of meningioma. Twenty-six (58%) out of 45 cases were WHO grade II or III. With regard to histologic transformation, 6 of 8 histologic transformations were aggressive transformations (from WHO grade I to II or III) (Table 3). In the presented cases, 3 cases were grade II or III, and one case with WHO grade I had histological transformation to WHO grade II at the time of LD. These findings suggest that a malignant meningioma tends to metastasize to the leptomeninges more frequently.

The genetic characterization of meningiomas involving histologic transformation has been studied during the past decade. The cumulative acquisition of genetic alterations in meningiomas might be related to the development of LD, especially in cases with malignant transformation. The most common allelic loss in benign meningiomas is alteration in the long arm of chromosome 22 (22q), and this alteration is considered to be the earliest initiating event in meningioma formation³. Whereas allelic loss at other loci, such as 1p, 3q, 6q, 10q, 14q, 17q, and 18q, is associated with tumor progression from the benign state to the atypical and anaplastic meningiomas³¹. Recently, Nakane et al.³³ suggested that meningiomas similarly progress from the benign to the malignant state by the accumulation of genetic alterations such as 1p loss of heterozygosity and *p73/RASSF1A* promoter methylation. However, the genetic alterations of meningiomas with LD have not yet been reported in the literature owing to the rarity of LD. The study of a larger number of meningiomas with LD could enable the elucidation of the genetic aspect.

Meningiomas are naturally exposed to CSF at the time of surgical intervention. Theoretically, surgical resection might initiate metastatic spread. However, this theory seems improbable since the incidence is so low in the face of so many tumors being operated on, and there have been cases describing LD through CSF for which there was no surgical intervention³⁹. On the other hand, the surgical resection theoretically could influence malignant transformation of meningiomas. Koenig et al.²¹ reported that growth factors at the site of surgical trauma exacerbate a genetic or environmental predilection for malignancy. This the-

ory was tested in an experimental rat model in which neonatal rats were exposed to intravenously administered high-dose nitrogen-based carcinogens and underwent surgical trauma to the brain. Compared to a control group, which was also exposed to carcinogens, twice as many neoplasms, including gliomas and vestibular schwannomas, developed at the site of injury in the surgical trauma group³².

When meningiomas are observed at multiple sites, it is difficult to distinguish whether the focus is a multiple tumor or a metastatic tumor. Multiple meningiomas are defined as two or more tumors appearing simultaneously or sequentially in the same patient, and the incidence of multiple meningiomas ranges from 1% to 16% of all meningiomas⁴⁰. Multiple meningiomas usually occur in association with neurofibromatosis type 2, but also have been described in families with no evidence of neurofibromatosis²⁸. However, almost all examples in the literature mentioned that meningioma with LD is not associated with neurofibromatosis and familial multiple meningiomas. And, in our cases, LD is certainly secondary to postoperative seeding through CSF, because histopathological features of additional biopsies were similar to the first biopsy and there was no familial history. Therefore, neurofibromatosis and familial multiple meningioma may have little role in LD.

Spinal LDs usually occur in malignant primary brain tumors, and those that arise from intracranial meningiomas are extremely rare. Based on the literature, meningiomas accompanied by spinal LDs were reported in 35 of 45 cases (78%). Especially, 6 out of 9 cases (67%) with intraventricular meningiomas were accompanied by spinal LDs. In addition, 4 of those cases were WHO grade III and the other 2 cases were confirmed as malignant transformation from WHO grade II to III. In the intraventricular meningiomas with LD, the median and mean time interval between local recurrence and spinal LD was 6 months and 10.5 months, respectively (range from 0 to 21 months). And, the mean time interval between intracranial LD and spinal LD was 4 months. In the present cases, a patient with an atypical intraventricular meningioma showed local recurrence and intracranial LD at the same time, and spinal LD was developed approximately 4 months after intracranial LD (Case 3). Considering the literature and the present case, screening spinal MRI could be carefully considered between 6 months and 12 months after local recurrence of a non-benign intraventricular meningioma. When intracranial LDs of a malignant intraventricular meningioma are diagnosed, whole spinal MRI should be performed immediately, and follow-up spinal MRI could be carefully considered between 3 months and 6 months after the time of LD.

So far, multimodal treatments, including multiple surgeries, chemotherapy (systemic or regional intraventricular chemotherapy) and radiotherapy (whole brain, spine and involved-field radiotherapy to sites) were performed for patients with LD. However, the prognoses in the reported literature were dismal. This is because there have been few therapeutic options after a tumor

grows following administration of radiation-based therapy. In addition, a few patients received chemotherapy, and the received chemotherapy regimens were limited. Recently, as a new effort, Chamberlain et al.^{5,6)} aggressively treated with concurrent systemic chemotherapy (temozolomide, irinotecan, interferon- α , cyclophosphamide, and bevacizumab) and regional chemotherapy (intraventricular liposomal cytosine arabinoside, busulfan, and thiotepa). Although there was a short median survival^{5,6)}, 3 patients with disease stability were alive at the time of last follow-up and one patient's survival was 39 months. This finding revealed a possibility for more effective chemotherapy for a patient with LD. Also, Pradat et al.³⁸⁾ demonstrated that some patients with meningeal gliomatosis may benefit from a concurrent radiotherapy to symptomatic areas and chemotherapy with agents that cross the blood-brain barrier or are delivered directly into the CSF. In the present cases, the above treatments were not administered because the patients' condition had deteriorated rapidly. However, in the future, an effective combination of radiotherapy and chemotherapy should be considered for meningiomas with LD through CSF.

CONCLUSION

Intracranial meningioma with LD is extremely rare. And, the pathogenesis for LD of meningioma remains unknown. Although our study does not demonstrate statistically significant conclusions, we generated two hypotheses based on the presented cases and a literature review. Firstly, intraventricular location and histologically aggressive features of meningiomas may be the predisposing factors for LD. Secondly, although the reported prognoses of LD of meningioma were poor, aggressively adjuvant chemotherapy or effective combination of chemo- and radiotherapy should be considered.

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