

Meningioma in Pregnancy

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Background: Brain tumors in general are rare in pregnancy, however it is unquestionable that there is a hormonal relationship in the appearance of some tumors, particularly meningiomas.

Objective: The higher incidence of meningioma in women especially during pregnancy and the hormonal influence in the development and growth of these tumors will be discussed. Our aim is to present cases with intracranial meningioma in pregnant ladies presenting with signs and symptoms of increased intracranial pressure and neurodeficit.

Methods: Retrospective review of five patients who presented with intracranial meningioma during pregnancy.

Results: Four patients had surgical resection of the tumor. All operated patients were negative for estrogen receptors, while three were positive for progesterone receptors. The patient with negative progesterone and estrogen receptors had tumor recurrence during her subsequent pregnancy in spite of a tumor resection and radiotherapy. All the operated patients did well except the one with tumor recurrence who died.

Conclusion: Meningiomas have the tendency to grow and increase in size during pregnancy. The acute presentation during pregnancy adds to the difficulty of management.