

A Case of Infantile Hemifacial Spasm with a Cerebellar Tumor

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Abstract : This report presents the case of an 11-month-old female with hemifacial spasm and a cerebellar tumor. She experienced brief spasms associated with left-sided eyelid blinking beginning a few days after birth. Interictal and ictal video-EEG recordings showed no paroxysmal discharges. Brain MRI showed a mass lesion in the left cerebellar hemisphere, involving the left middle and superior cerebellar peduncles and effacing the fourth ventricle. There have so far been few reports of hemifacial spasm in children, therefore the current case was evaluated with a review of the pertinent literature. Nine cases of hemifacial spasm in children cases with a cerebellar tumor were reported with paroxysmal discharges from the cerebellum in some cases. These findings suggest the mechanism of hemifacial spasm in children to therefore differ from the compression of the facial nerve at the root entry zone observed in adult cases.

Key words : Hemifacial spasm, Cerebellar tumor, Children, Video EEG, Cerebellar epilepsy