

Abstract

Background

Craniopharyngiomas are benign tumors of brain usually seen in children and young adults. Due to the mass effect on the pituitary gland, these tumors result in various pituitary hormone deficiencies. We present a patient who had only diabetes insipidus as the presenting manifestation of a large craniopharyngioma.

Case presentation

A young girl presented with three months history of polyuria and polydipsia. A water deprivation test confirmed the presence of complete central diabetes insipidus. Her MRI scan of the brain showed a large craniopharyngioma. She underwent partial resection of the tumor and radiotherapy. Even though her tumor is controlled at the moment she is left with many disabling complications.

Conclusion

Patients suspected of having diabetes insipidus need early evaluation to prevent morbidity associated with late diagnosis.

Keywords – Diabetes insipidus, craniopharyngioma, hypothalamic obesity