Caudotentorial Craniectomy to Remove a Brain Meningioma in a Dog

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Signalment: A 9-year-old castrated male Schnauzer presented to Royal Animal Medical Center with seizures and altered behavior for 2 months. Magnetic resonance imaging revealed a enhancing mass involving the surface of the left occipital lobe.

Results: Round shaped (1.8cm in circumference) bloody mass was removed by using caudotentorial craniectomy. The cytologic diagnosis was neoplasia, possibly meningioma. The dog was monitored intensively include neurologic signs, CBC, blood chemistry, electrolyte, blood pressure, osmorality, blood gas analysis, central venous pressure, lactate during postoperative period. During 36 hours after surgery, the dog ate food well with maintaining stable vital signs and parameters. But he took a turn for the worse. Unfortunately the dog was expired at Sixty six hours after operation. The causes were suggested cerebral edema, elevated intracranial pressure, seizure and electrolyte imbalance.

Clinical relevance: Most intracranial surgery can be done with low degree of morbidity. However, intensive postoperative monitoring of the patient is imperative because many physiologic process may be altered by the neurosurgical procedure. In conclusion, post-operative management including detail monitoring system, analyzing data accurately and treatment promptly is important to the patient undergoing craniectomy.

Key words: brain meningioma, craniectomy, dog

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