

Isolated mediastinal metastasis from benign meningothelial meningioma diagnosed by EBUS-TBNA

원광의대병원 호흡기내과

정재완, 박철

Meningioma is the most common benign intracranial neoplasm. Extracranial metastasis from benign meningioma is exceedingly rare and is seen in less than 0.1% to 0.2% of cases. Lungs (60%), liver (34%) and cervical lymph nodes (18%) are the most common sites of extracranial metastasis. We describe a patient with isolated mediastinal metastasis from benign meningothelial meningioma that was diagnosed by endobronchial ultrasound (EBUS) guided transbronchial needle aspiration (TBNA). An 82-year-old woman with a known recurrent meningioma of the brain was referred to our department for a mediastinal lymphadenopathy. She underwent total surgical resection for meningioma 6 years ago and had a confirmed recurrence 3 years ago but was receiving palliative treatment only. The mediastinal lymphadenopathy was found incidentally on workup for a rib fracture. An enhanced computed tomography scan of the chest revealed a heterogeneously enhancing mass measuring about 7.5 cm at its greatest dimension in the left lower paratracheal and left hilar regions. The patient underwent EBUS-guided TBNA. On histology, tumor cells were compatible with a meningothelial meningioma (WHO grade 1). She was asymptomatic from her metastasis, and the decision was made to observe her with yearly imaging. Meningiomas are usually benign, slow-growing tumors that histologically correspond to WHO grade 1 status. Although less common, atypical (WHO grade 2) and anaplastic (WHO grade 3) meningiomas are more aggressive, with a high risk of local recurrence and a less favorable prognosis. According to WHO criteria, the histologic grade of the tumor is the most important predictive factor for recurrence and metastasis. This case highlights the aggressive potential of meningiomas, which are typically considered benign, and emphasizes the need to consider metastatic meningioma in the workup of mediastinal masses in patients with a history of meningiomas.

