

# Mediastinal ganglioneuroma: An incidentaloma of childhood

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## ABSTRACT

Ganglioneuroma is a rare benign neurogenic tumor which represents the final maturation stage of neuroblast tumors. Here, we are discussing an interesting case of incidentally detected posterior mediastinal ganglioneuroma which should be kept in mind when dealing with any child with respiratory distress.

**Key words:** Asymptomatic mediastinal mass, childm incidentaloma, ganglioneuroma, posterior mediastinal ganglioneuroma

## IMAGES IN MEDICAL AND PEDIATRIC ONCOLOGY

A 5-year-old boy was admitted to a district hospital with diagnosis of a right hydrocele. Routine blood and urine examination were normal. Patient never had any respiratory



Figure 1: X-ray of thorax revealing large mass in left mediastinum

problems and was taken up for surgery, but at the time of induction of anesthesia, the patient developed severe respiratory distress, so operation was postponed. Later, chest X-ray done showed a dense homogenous opacity at left middle and lower zone, arising from the left paracardiac region [Figure 1]. So, he was referred to our institute.

Computed tomography (CT) scan of the chest revealed a well-defined hypodense moderately enhancing non-calcified posterior mediastinal mass ( $4.9 \times 4.6 \times 6 \text{ cm}^3$ ) in the left paravertebral region [Figure 2]. Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) of the chest showed no extension of the tumor into the spinal canal [Figure 3]. Thus,



Figure 2: Computed tomography scan of thorax showing mass in the left posterior mediastinum region

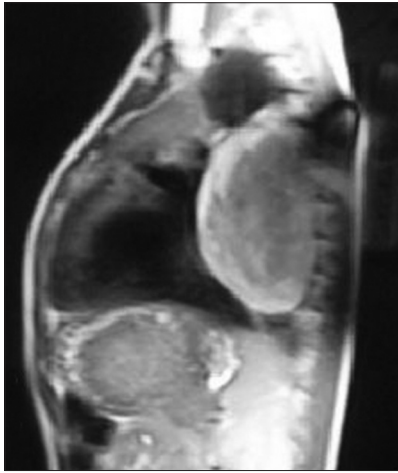
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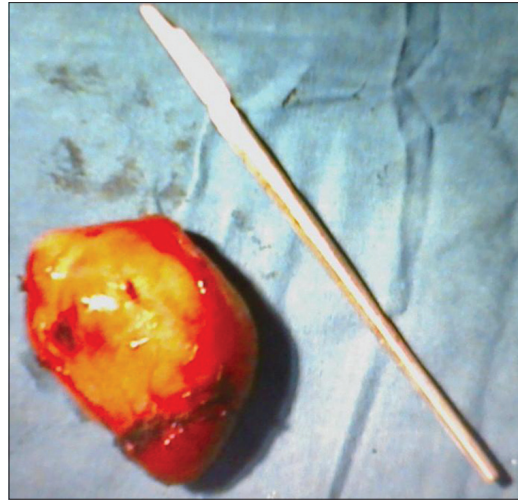
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**Figure 3:** MRI of thorax showing posterior mediastinal mass with no spinal extension

excision of the mass was done by left posterior lateral thoracotomy [Figure 4]. Microscopically, the lesion was consistent with ganglioneuroma. Postoperative period was uneventful. Thirteen months after surgery, he is asymptomatic with normal radiology.



**Figure 4:** Excised specimen of posterior mediastinal mass

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