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1: [J Neurosurg.](#) 2008 Dec 5. [Epub ahead of print] [Related Articles,](#)
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Exophytic giant cell glioblastoma of the medulla oblongata.

[Luetjens G](#), [Mirzayan MJ](#), [Brandis A](#), [Krauss JK](#).

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Giant cell glioblastoma is a rare variant within the spectrum of glioblastoma multiforme (GBM) tumors. A giant cell glioblastoma may be associated with a better prognosis than the common type of GBM after combined treatment involving tumor resection and radiochemotherapy. A giant cell glioblastoma may occur at various sites in the brain and spinal cord. To the authors' knowledge, this type of tumor has not been previously reported as arising as an exophytic tumor from the medulla oblongata. The authors report on a 40-year-old man who presented with a large tumor located in the caudal fourth ventricle. The tumor was removed completely and the patient underwent percutaneous radiotherapy with 60 Gy and concomitant chemotherapy with temozolomide. Histopathological examination of the tumor revealed the typical features of a giant cell glioblastoma. At the 2-year follow-up the patient was doing well and showed no signs of tumor recurrence. It is important to identify variants of GBM because they may predict favorable long-term outcome, even when they arise from the caudal brainstem.

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