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Congenital brain tumour in a neonate: a therapeutic challenge

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Abstract

A term neonate with history of ventriculomegaly in the fetal period was diagnosed with a central nervous system tumour after radiological investigations. It was confirmed as an immature teratoma after histopathological examination. He underwent left frontal craniotomy with tumour excision. Intraoperatively, massive haemorrhage (venous bleed) occurred due to the high vascularity of the tumour and led to haemodynamic instability. A massive transfusion protocol was initiated. Despite multiple transfusions and shock management, he succumbed at 2 weeks of life. This case report highlights the importance of antenatal diagnosis and fetal MRI in prognostication and also the possible role of neoadjuvant chemotherapy in reducing tumour vascularity and, hence, bleeding.

Keywords: Hydrocephalus; Neonatal intensive care.

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