Leptomeningeal carcinomatosis: a rare complication in esophageal cancer

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Case report

A 54-year-old man with poorly differentiated adenocarcinoma of the esophagus presented with headaches and Jacksonian march starting in his right hand. Head CT showed gyriform hyperdensity within the left frontal lobe, which was initially interpreted as subarachnoid hemorrhage (Fig. 1A). Corresponding enhancement along the left frontal sulci was noted on subsequent MRI (Figs. 1B-D).

CSF analysis demonstrated clusters and individual malignant cells with large mucin-containing vacuoles indicative of leptomeningeal carcinomatosis (LC, Fig. 2). LC is a very rare complication of esophageal carcinoma and can be misdiagnosed without a high index of suspicion (1).

REFERENCE


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