

Spinal Hydatidosis: Therapeutic Management of 5 Cases

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Abstract : Vertebral localization of the hydatid cyst is a severe form of bone hydatidosis, is a parasitic infection caused by the larval forms of the tapeworms *Echinococcus granulosus*, The disease is slowly remaining silent (a long incubation period) which may explain why this pathology is often discovered at the stage of neurological complications. The objective of this study is to recall the clinical and radiological aspects of this condition and the importance of early diagnosis and appropriate management. We report a study of 5 patients with vertebral hydatidosis, four men and one woman, four (04) patients operated in the emergency setting for spinal cord compression (decompression by wide laminectomy with evacuation of intra and extra canal vesicles). Albendazole-based medical treatment is instituted in all patients. Results: The evolution was favorable for three patients, the other two patients reoperated for a local recurrence. Conclusion: Vertebral hydatidosis is a rare condition with a poor prognosis due to the risk of neurological damage, the infiltrating nature of bone lesions, the frequency of relapses and therapeutic difficulties. The only curative method remains surgery, which must aim for complete and large excision of the lesions as if it were a "malignant tumour".

Keywords : hydatidosis, Echinococcosis granulosus, hydatid cyst, spinal cord compression, laminectomy

Conference Title : ICNSM 2022 : International Conference on Neurological Surgery and Methods

Conference Location : Paris, France

Conference Dates : October 27-28, 2022