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Publisher of Scientific Journals

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Surgical Neurology International

SNI: Skull Base

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Orbitozygomatic approach for large orbital cavernous hemangioma

Jose Orlando de Melo Junior^{1,2}, Marcelo Francisco Alcantara Ribeiro de Castro², Jose Alberto Landeiro³

¹Department of Neurosurgery, Paulo Niemeyer State Brain Institute, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, ²Department of Neurosurgery, Santa Teresa Hospital, Petropolis, Brazil, ³Department of Neurosurgery, Antonio Pedro University Hospital, Niteroi, Brazil.

E-mail: *Jose Orlando de Melo Junior - jomjunior@gmail.com; Marcelo Francisco Alcantara Ribeiro de Castro - marcelocastroneuro@globo.com; Jose Alberto Landeiro - jalandeiro@gmail.com



Video Abstract

*Corresponding author:

Jose Orlando de Melo Junior, Department of Neurosurgery, Paulo Niemeyer State Brain Institute, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

jomjunior@gmail.com

Received : 15 March 2021 Accepted : 03 June 2021 Published : 28 June 2021

DOI 10.25259/SNI_274_2021

Quick Response Code:



ABSTRACT

Background: Cavernous hemangiomas, more accurately defined as cavernous venous malformations, constitute the most common primary intraorbital tumors of adults comprising 4–9% of all tumors,^[4] and the second most frequent cause of unilateral proptosis after thyroid-related orbitopathy.^[3] Over 80% are located within the intraconal compartment, most commonly in the lateral aspect.^[1] Surgical treatment for orbital cavernous hemangioma is generally required in symptomatic cases, optic nerve compression, and cosmetically disfiguring proptosis.^[2] Transcranial approaches, the most familiar approaches for neurosurgeons, provide wide access to the entire superior and lateral orbit. They usually offer direct visualization, allowing for a safer dissection, while minimizing significant injury to the native neural and vascular anatomy of the orbit.^[5] Although transcranial approaches continue to evolve, in many cases, they have been supplanted by endoscopic skull base approaches and modifications to deep lateral orbitotomy approaches.^[5]

Case Description: A 62-year-old male patient presented with slowly expanding left proptosis, which he had first noticed 3 years before presentation. He was already blind in his right eye due to a history of traumatic amaurosis in childhood. The left eye examination revealed severe proptosis with restricted eye movement in all directions and significant visual impairment (visual acuity of 20/300, expressed by Snellen test, with no improvement on correction). MRI of the orbit showed a large left superolateral intraconal cavernous hemangioma compressing and displacing the optic nerve, with the typical feature of slow gradual irregular enhancement with delayed washout on contrast-enhanced image. A one-piece modified orbitozygomatic approach was performed and a total *en block* resection was achieved. The bone flap was fixed with titanium miniplates and screws, the temporal muscle and the skin were closed in a standard fashion. The patient did not present any new deficit in the postoperative period. The patient had good functional and cosmetic outcomes with resolution of proptosis, restoration of eye movements, and improvement of visual acuity in the 3-month follow-up. Postoperative MRI showed total resection.

Conclusion: The orbitozygomatic approach for large orbital cavernous hemangioma provides satisfactory orbital decompression and large working space, reduces traction, and increases visualization and freedom to dissect small vessels and nerves that may be tightly attached to the tumor pseudocapsule.

Keywords: Orbital cavernous hemangioma, Orbital tumor, Orbitozygomatic approach, Skull base surgery, Surgical approach

[Video 1]-Available on: www.surgicalneurologyint.com

Annotations^[1-5]

- 1) 00:00 Introduction.
- 2) 00:23 Case presentation.

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- 3) 00:50 Preoperative imaging.
- 4) 01:18 Positioning and skin incision.
- 5) 01:51 Subfascial dissection.
- 6) 01:58 Landmarks in a cadaver model.
- 7) 03:20 Orbitozygomatic approach.
- 8) 03:26 Tumor resection.
- 9) 04:34 Postoperative imaging.
- 10) 04:39 Outcome.

Declaration of patient consent

The authors certify that they have obtained all appropriate patient consent.

Financial support and sponsorship

None.

Conflicts of interest

There are no conflicts of interest.

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How to cite this article: de Melo Junior JO, de Castro MF, Landeiro JA. Orbitozygomatic approach for large orbital cavernous hemangioma. Surg Neurol Int 2021;12:320.