

In 2017, the WHO established that [pituicytoma](#), [granular cell tumor](#) (GCT) and [spindle cell oncocytoma](#) (SCO) are posterior [pituitary tumors](#) (PPT). Recent data suggests that these tumours probably arise from the pituicytes and may constitute a spectrum of a unique histopathological entity. Our aim is to report the clinical findings and surgical outcomes of 16 patients with PPT. We also evaluated the tissue specimens available in light of current knowledge.

**METHOD:** Cross-sectional study with retrospective data.

**RESULTS:** PPT were 7 pituicytomas, 3 GCT and 6 SCO. Patients mean age was 55 years old and 75% were female. Basal hormonal study showed hyperprolactinemia (43.7%) and hypopituitarism (37.5%). There was no case of diabetes insipidus (DI). MRI showed sellar/suprasellar masses with mean size of 19.7mm. PPT was not suspected in any patient. Fifteen patients underwent surgery and complications were common: 20% had perioperative bleeding (one patient died because of a massive haemorrhage), 57.1% hypopituitarism, 35.7% permanent DI and 21.4% underwent a second surgery. Pathological findings shown positivity for thyroid transcription factor 1, vimentin and negativity for cytokeratin and chromogranin A in all specimens evaluated. S100 protein was positive in 88.8% of tumours. Ki67 was  $\geq 3\%$  in 66.6% and ranged from 4-7% in SCO.

**CONCLUSION:** PPT have similar histology, clinical features and are frequently misdiagnosed as nonfunctioning pituitary tumours. However, post-surgical complications including haemorrhage are common. A high clinical suspicion is needed to presume the diagnosis prior surgery and diminish the high morbidity of these tumours.

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Only 4 ependymomas of the human sellar region have been reported to date and all have had classic histologic features. Herein, we describe the clinicopathologic features of a sellar, low-grade ependymoma with unusual histology, but classic ultrastructural features, occurring in an elderly patient and thus expanding the spectrum of reported cases. The literature is reviewed and concepts of histogenesis are explored, particularly an origin in "ependymal [pituicytes](#)." The concept that sellar ependymoma is [pituicyte](#)-derived is explored <sup>1)</sup>.

<sup>1)</sup>

Scheithauer BW, Swearingen B, Whyte ET, Auluck PK, Stemmer-Rachamimov AO. Ependymoma of the sella turcica: a variant of pituicytoma. Hum Pathol. 2009 Mar;40(3):435-40. doi: 10.1016/j.humpath.2008.08.013. Epub 2008 Nov 7. PubMed PMID: 18992914.

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