

Spinal Teratoma Differential Diagnosis

Unlike in intraspinal teratomas in infants and children, the symptoms of these tumors in adult patients typically lack specific clinical features that, upon diagnosis, may cause confusion with other [spinal tumors](#), such as [schwannomas](#), which are more commonly observed in adult patients ¹⁾.

Preoperative diagnosis of [spinal teratoma](#) is not easy since the MRI features cannot determine with certainty the differential diagnosis between teratoma and other extramedullary lesions.

The performance of a histopathological examination subsequent to surgery is the final analysis required to confirm the diagnosis of an intraspinal mature teratoma.

[Primary spinal cord glioblastoma](#) (PSC GBM) is an extremely rare disease shows dismal [prognosis](#).

Yang et al. reported the first case of multicentric PSC GBM presenting with exophytic involvement mimicking [teratoma](#). A 12-year-old girl who presented to the hospital with a six-month history of [back pain](#) and progressive [paraplegia](#). [Spinal magnetic resonance imaging](#) (MRI) findings suspicious for [spinal teratoma](#) with [cerebrospinal fluid](#) dissemination. The patient underwent [laminotomy](#) and [laminoplasty](#) from T10-S2 and [subtotal resection](#) (STR) of the tumor was achieved. Histopathological analysis revealed typical histological indications of glioblastoma. After surgery, the patient underwent further adjuvant therapy consisting of radiotherapy (RT) and temozolomide (TMZ). However, 8 months after surgery, the follow-up MRI revealed tumor recurrence with intracranial dissemination. The patient still alive at the current stage (9 months after surgery) ²⁾.

¹⁾
Chandler CL, Uttley D, Wilkins PR, Kavanagh TG. Primary spinal malignant schwannoma. Br J Neurosurg. 1994;8(3):341-345. doi:10.3109/02688699409029623

²⁾
Yang K, Wang J, Wang G. Multicentric Exophytic Primary Spinal Cord Glioblastoma Mimicking Teratoma [published online ahead of print, 2020 Aug 7]. World Neurosurg. 2020;S1878-8750(20)31774-5. doi:10.1016/j.wneu.2020.08.010

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