

PSYCHOSIS AND ARACHNOID CYST

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Introduction

The arachnoid cyst is a pathology most often benign affecting the arachnoid, they develop within the arachnoid, one of the three meningeal membranes, whose role is to protect the brain. It is usually discovered by chance during a CT scan or MRI

The appearance of some references which focus on a possible link between arachnoid cysts and psychotic symptoms has increased interest in this topic and raised questions about the etiopathogenesis and the therapeutic approach involved.

Clinical presentation:

We present the clinical observation of a 27-year-old man, characterized by the insidious development of psychotic symptoms, with heteroaggressivity, the verbalization of polythematic delusional speech, auditory, verbal and intrapsychic hallucinations, and impaired judgment and insight. .

MRI revealed a large arachnoid cyst at the right temporal level, with a marked mass effect on the adjacent temporal parenchyma. The patient began antipsychotic treatment and was discharged after showing a slight psychic improvement .

Conclusion:

The mass effect that the MRI found and the behavioral disturbances that the patient presented, may explain the possibility that the lesion plays a role in the etiopathogenesis of the psychotic symptoms and / or in the partial improvement under treatment.

Psychotic symptoms in patients with this type of injury cannot be unquestionably taken as a coincidence. A more in-depth study of this type of case is therefore necessary in order to optimize the therapeutic prescription in cases involving the coexistence of arachnoid cysts. and psychosis.

