Multiple and Giant Sciatic Nerve Schwannoma

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Clinical Image

A 61-year-old woman with a six-month history of a quickly enlarging mass on the back of right thigh (Figure 1). She had a 3-month walking restricted history. The limitation of walking is caused by the compression of sciatic nerve. The operation showed that the mass consisted of one large (18 cm × 10 cm) and ten small masses, and all of them arose from the sciatic nerve (Figure 1). The masses were sent to the pathologists and found to be a schwannoma. Preoperative magnetic resonance images demonstrated that the lesion were multiple masses involved the sciatic nerve (Figure 2). The patient had normal sciatic sensory and motor function postoperatively, with no evidence of recurrence.

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Figure 1: Masses were removed from the back of right thigh. The mass consisted of one large (18 cm × 10 cm) and ten small masses, and all of them arose from the sciatic nerve.

Figure 2: MRI of the tumors. Images demonstrate that the mass involved the sciatic nerve.