

13. A statistic study on the Spinal cord tumors.

—Experiences during 30 years at the Department of Orthopedics,
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In the past 30 years, between 1929 and 1958 we have accumulated 63 cases of spinal cord tumor in our clinic, in which 14 were extradural, 43 intradural-extramedullary and 6 were intramedullary tumors.

Incidence: Males were affected more frequently than females, the proportion being 46 to 17.

The ages of the patients ranged from 10 years to 62 years, and high incidence was noted in the third, second and forth decade respectively.

Pathology: Neurinoma occupied 37 out of a total of 63 cases, namely 60%, while one third of extradural and three quarters of intradural-extramedullary tumors were neurinomas.

Other than neurinoma, cancer, sarcoma and chorioepithelioma were seen in the extradural, endothelioma and epidermoid cyst in the intradural-extramedullary tumors.

Location of tumor: Special attention should be paid to the interesting distribution of the intradural-extramedullary tumor.

This almost exclusively affected the lower cervical or thoraco-lumbar region, showing that the tumor mostly originates from the cervical or lumbar intumescence.

In general the spinal cord tumors themselves were located dorsally and right sided.

Diagnostic procedures: Elsberg-Dyke's curve was affirmative in 20% of the extradural, 40% of the intradural-extramedullary and 100% of the intramedullary tumors.

Myelography could be fully relied upon in determining the level of lesion, and it also differentiated the extradural, intradural-extramedullary and intramedullary tumor in 90% of all the cases.

Treatment: Surgical intervention was excellent in the intradural-extramedullary group and 37 out of 43 of this group completely or satisfactorily recovered.

Surgery was less effective in the other two tumor groups.