Contrasting radiological presentation of Cervical Sympathetic Chain Schwannoma: Case series of two cases
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ABSTRACT
Splaying of carotid bifurcation on imaging, known as lyre’s sign, is seen characteristically in carotid body tumors. Is positive lyre’s sign always confirmatory of carotid body tumor? Here we discuss two cases of cervical sympathetic chain schwannoma. The first cases presented radiologically as enhancing lesion with splaying of External carotid artery and internal carotid artery (positive Lyres sign) and mislead us to the diagnosis of carotid body tumor. The second case presented as enhancing lesion causing anterior displacement of External carotid artery and internal carotid artery (negative lyre’s sign). Both lesions were confirmed as cervical sympathetic schwannoma. Post operatively both patients developed Horner’s syndrome. Lyre sign is not always confirmatory of carotid body tumor

Key words: Lyre sign, Carotid body tumor, Cervical sympathetic schwannoma, False positive