

## Small Cell Lung Cancer at Subcarina Presenting as a Metastatic Brain Tumor

A 59-year-old man was rushed to the emergency room. The patient complained of headache with impaired memory function. Brain MRI showed a necrotic tumor in Lt cerebral hemisphere, with severe peritumoral edema (Fig. 1). Pathologic examination of the brain lesion confirmed that the tumor was a small cell lung cancer (SCLC). Chest computed tomography revealed a large soft tissue mass with central necrosis at subcarinal area in spite of an initial normal chest X-ray (Fig. 2). Bronchoscopic biopsy of the polypoid mass at subcarina revealed that the mass was a SCLC (Fig. 3). This is the case of SCLC only with an extrapulmonary symptoms despite of a normal chest X-ray. When metastatic brain tumor was found, appropriate chest evaluation should be performed even though chest X-ray was normal because brain is a common site of invasion of lung cancer. (*J Lung Cancer* 2010;9(1):24 – 25)

**Key Words:** Small cell lung cancer, Metastatic brain tumor

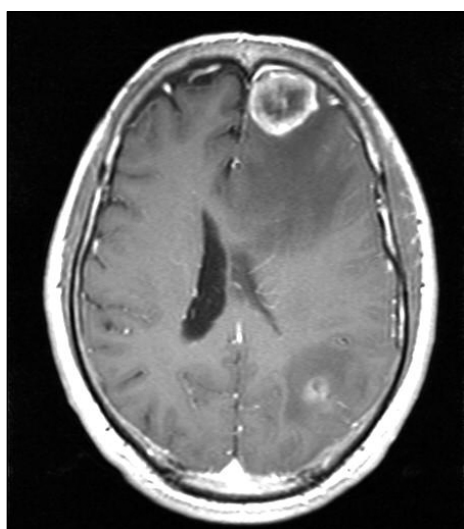
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**Fig. 1.** Initial Brain MRI shows necrotic tumors in Lt cerebral hemisphere, with severe peritumoral edema.



**Fig. 2.** Initial chest PA shows no active lung lesion.



**Fig. 3.** Bronchoscopy shows the polypoid mass at subcarina.