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가 (first branchial arch) (1). 4 (Fig. 1), (root entry zone) 4 (principal nucleus of trigeminal nerve) (trigeminothalamic tract) (ventral posteromedial nucleus, VPM) (mesencephalic nucleus of trigeminal nerve) (superior colliculus) gyrus) 1/3 (ros - tral pons) (2). Meckel (trigeminal or 1 × 2 cm (ophthalmic nerve) (superior orbital fissure) (fora - men rotundum) (spinal nucleus of trigeminal nerve) 가 (precentral

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(3, 4).

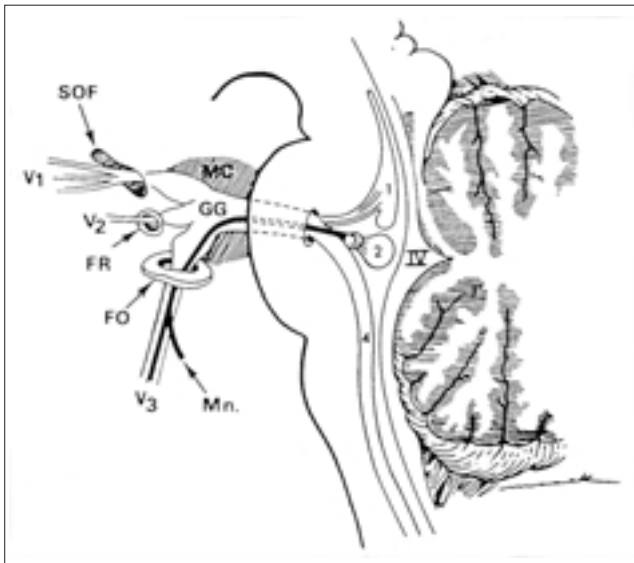


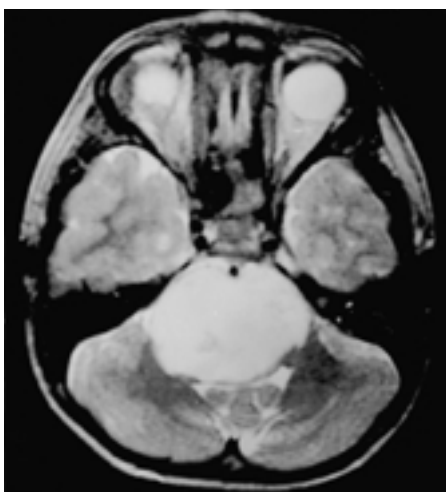
Fig. 1. Schematic drawing of intracranial portion of the trigeminal nerve. Four brainstem nuclei contribute to the trigeminal nerve. 1 = mesencephalic nucleus; 2 = principal sensory nucleus; 3 = main motor nucleus; 4 = spinal nucleus; MC = Meckel's cave; GG = Gasserian ganglion; SOF = superior orbital fissure; FR = foramen rotundum; FO = foramen ovale; Mn = masticator nerve; IV = fourth ventricle.

T1 , T2
(Fig. 2)

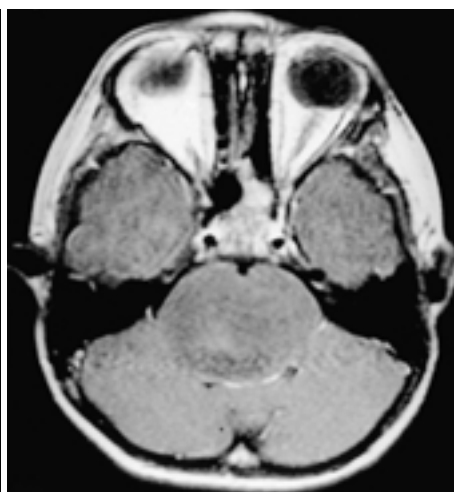
T1
, T2
(Fig. 3).



Fig. 2. Brain stem infarction of a 55-year-old woman with left trigeminal neuralgia. Focal asymmetric area of high signal intensity (arrow) at trigeminal nucleus of brain stem on T2-weighted image. T1-weighted image(not shown) shows this lesion as low signal intensity.



A



B

Fig. 3. Brain stem glioma of 8-year-old boy.

A. Enlargement of the pons with high signal intensity on T2-weighted image. T1-weighted image shows relatively homogenous low signal intensity(not shown).

B. No contrast enhancement is seen after gadolinium injection.

(5).
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(4).
T1 , 가
(Fig. 4).
(Fig. 5) (6).
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6) 가 (7).
3 FISP(fast imag-
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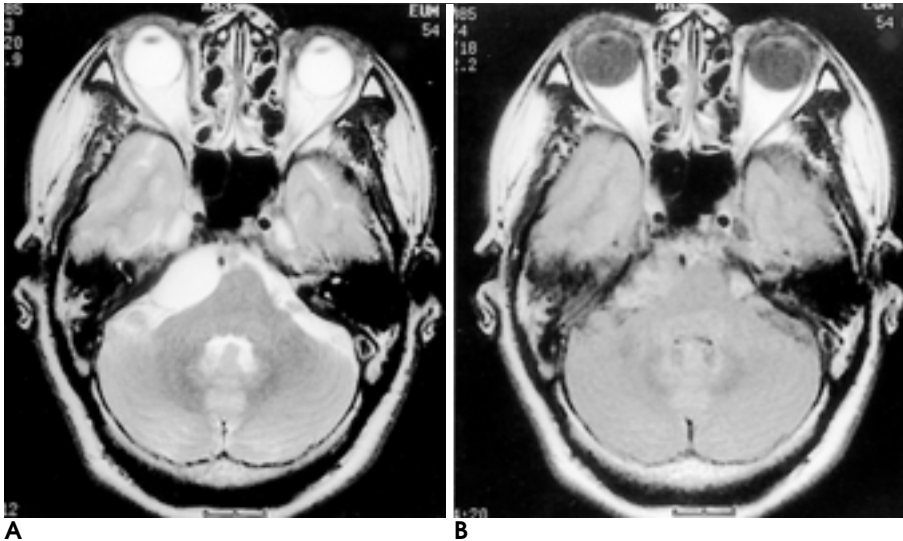


Fig. 4. Epidermoid tumor of 54-year-old woman.

A. T2-weighted and T1-weighted(not shown) images show a mass with same signal intensity as that of cerebrospinal fluid in right cerebellopontine angle cistern.

B. The signal intensity of this lesion is different from that of cerebrospinal fluid on FLAIR image. Diffusion-weighted image shows a high signal intensity (not shown).

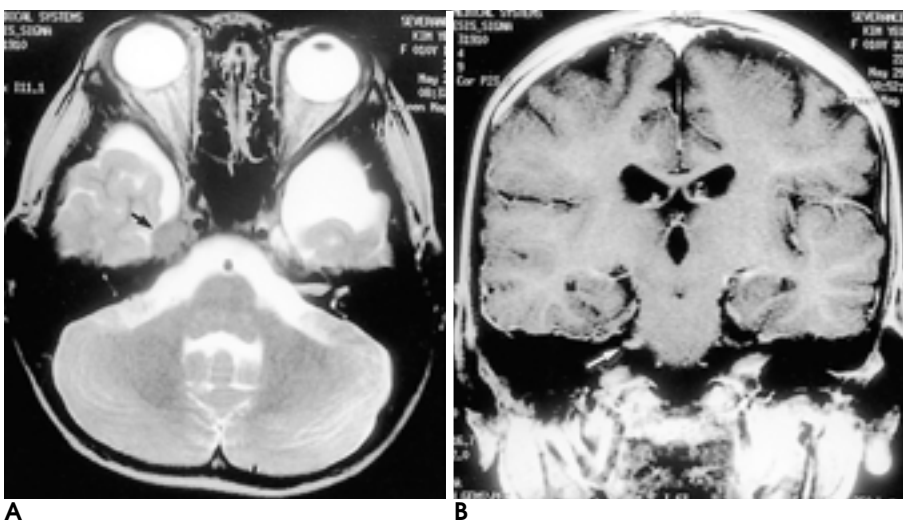


Fig. 5. Involvement of cisternal and cavernous segment of trigeminal nerve by lymphoma in 10-year-old girl.

A. T2-weighted axial image shows isointense mass lesion in the right cavernous sinus(arrow).

B. On contrast-enhanced T1-weighted coronal image, asymmetric thickening of cisternal segment(arrow) of right trigeminal nerve is noted.

recalled acquisition in the steady state)
(5).

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(Fig. 8),

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(8).

Meckel

(Fig. 7)가

(9)
Meckel

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Meckel

(3).

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Meckel

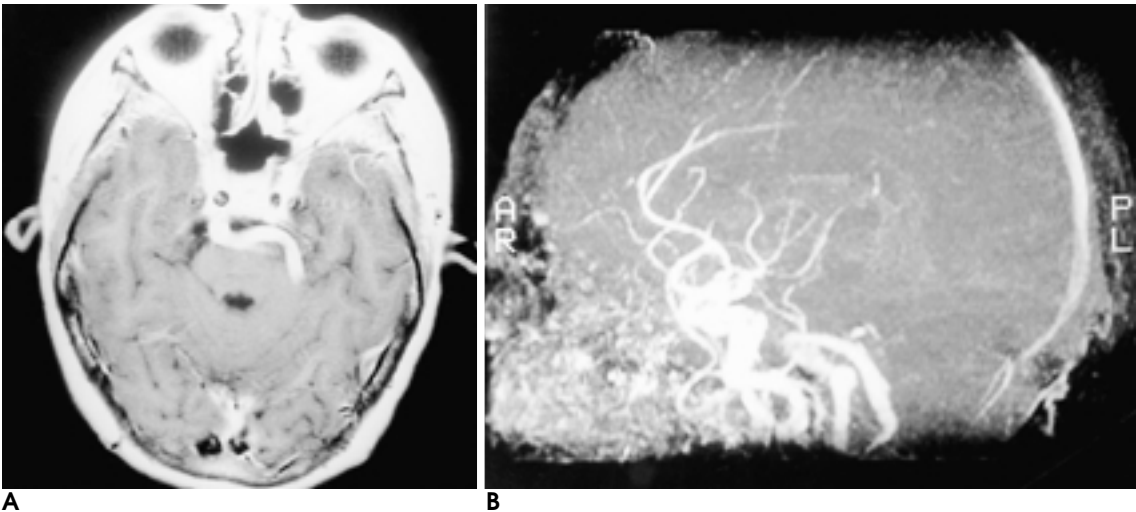


Fig. 6. Dolichoectasia of left vertebral artery in a 45-year-old female with left trigeminal neuralgia.
A. The root entry zone of left trigeminal nerve is compressed by tortuous distal loop of left vertebral artery on contrast-enhanced T1-weighted axial image.
B. MR angiogram demonstrates the dolichoectatic feature of left vertebral artery.

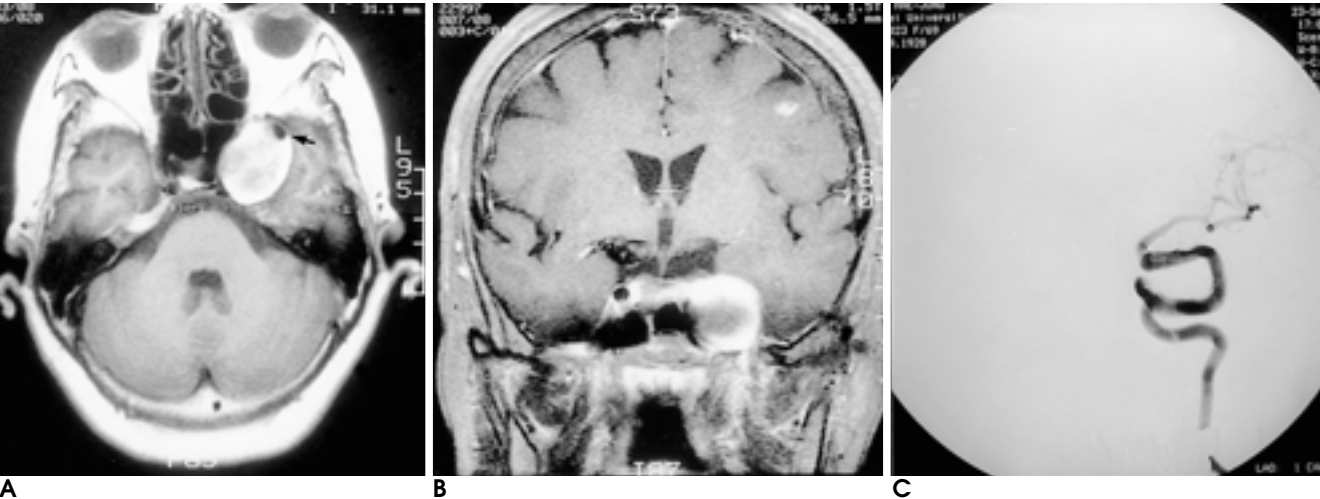


Fig. 7. Giant aneurysm of a 69-year-old woman complaining of double vision.
A. Axial T1-weighted image shows well-defined round mass of heterogeneous signal intensity in left Meckel 's cave with tubular structure of signal void (arrow).
B. On contrast-enhanced T1-weighted coronal image, left Meckel 'cave is obliterated by nonenhancing mass.
C. Anteroposterior view of cerebral angiogram demonstrates serpentine giant aneurysm in the petrous and cavernous segment of left internal carotid artery.

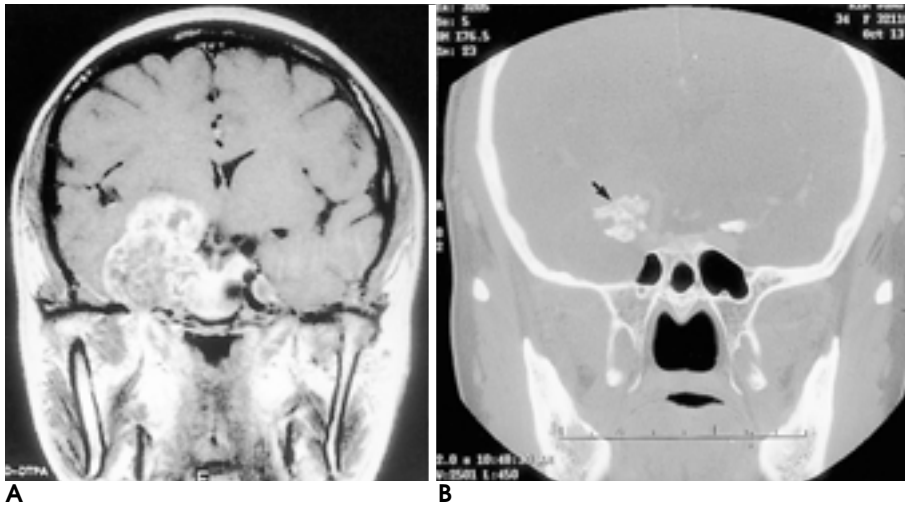


Fig. 8. Chondrosarcoma of skull base in 34-year-old female.

A. A contrast-enhanced T1-weighted coronal image shows a large lobulating, heterogeneously enhancing mass at right cavernous sinus area. T2-weighted image(not shown) reveals central hyperintense signal focus with air-fluid level suggesting hemorrhage. Right Meckel 's cave is obliterated by this tumor and right trigeminal nerve is displaced laterally.

B. Lobulated calcification (arrow) within the mass is demonstrated on coronal CT scan.

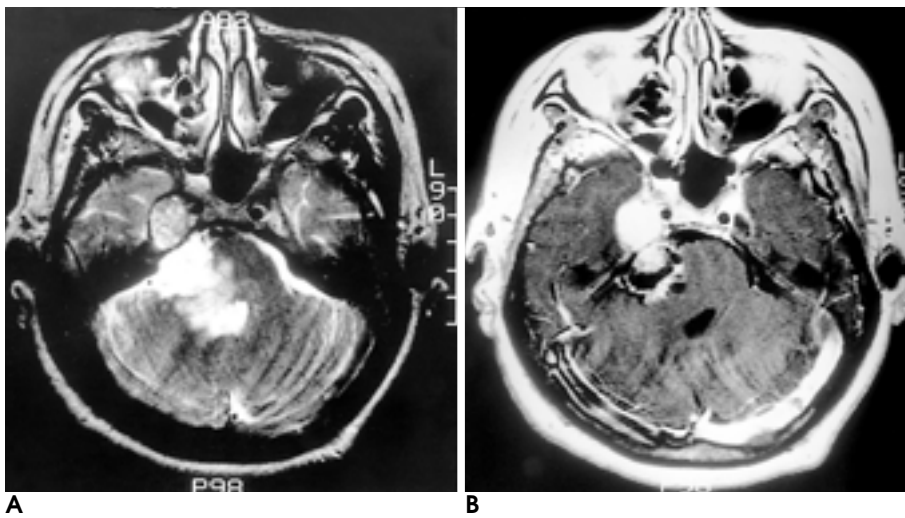


Fig. 9. Trigeminal schwannoma of a 59-year-old woman with diplopia and facial sensory change.

A. Lobulated mass located in right cerebellopontine angle, prepontine cistern, and cavernous sinus is shown as heterogeneously iso- to high signal intensity on T2WI.

B. The solid component of the tumor extends to right Meckel 's cave and is enhanced strongly on contrast-enhanced image.

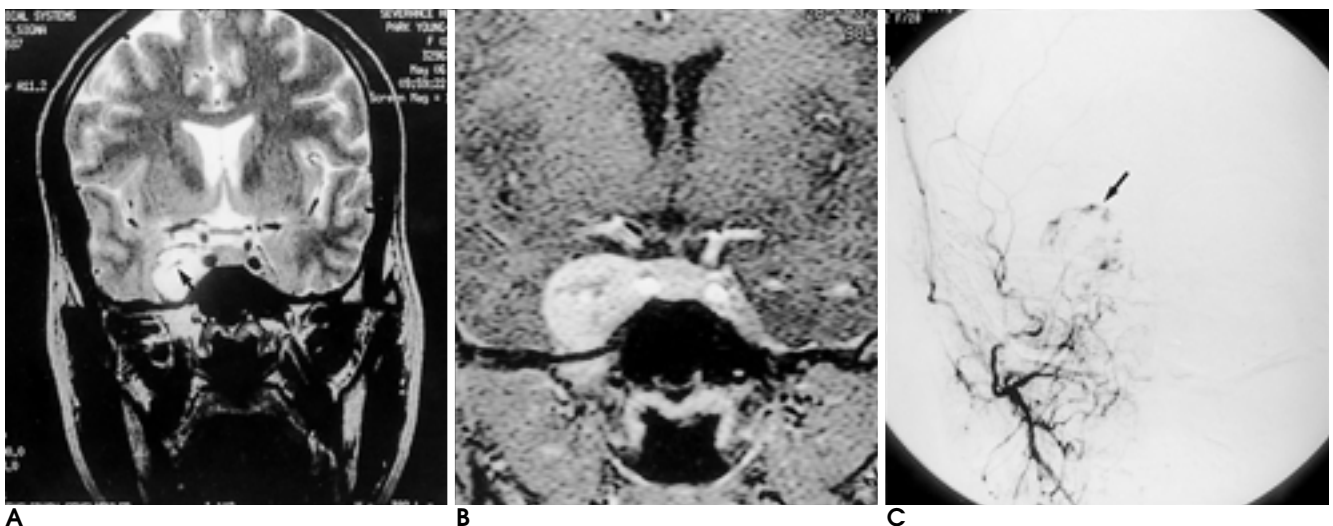


Fig. 10. Meningioma of right cavernous sinus in 28-year-old female.

A. Coronal T2-weighted image shows a hyperintense mass of broad dural base, which is obliterating right Meckel 's cave. Note signal void structure(arrow) of the center of the mass.

B. The mass is enhanced strongly on postcontrast image.

C. Anteroposterior view of right external carotid angiogram shows tumor staining at the periphery of the tumor(arrow). This tumor was misdiagnosed as hemangioma by centripetal tumor staining, however, pathologically confirmed as meningioma later.

Meckel
(Fig. 9)

T1 , T2

Meckel

Meckel

T1 T2

(Fig. 10).

Meckel

(Fig. 11)

(Fig. 12)가 (10).
(perineural extension)

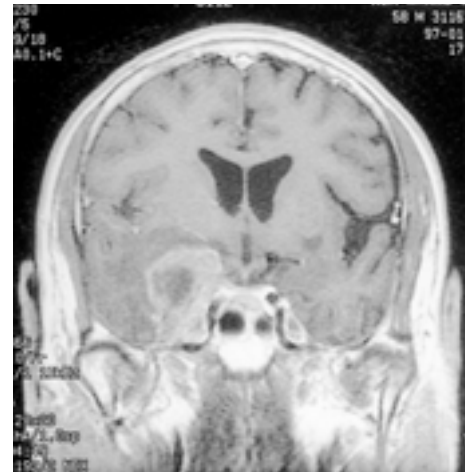


Fig. 12. Hematogenous metastasis from lung cancer in 58-year-old male.

On contrast-enhanced T1-weighted coronal image, well-enhancing mass with central necrosis in right Meckel's cave, growing exophytically into right temporal lobe, is noted. Right internal carotid artery is encased by the mass.

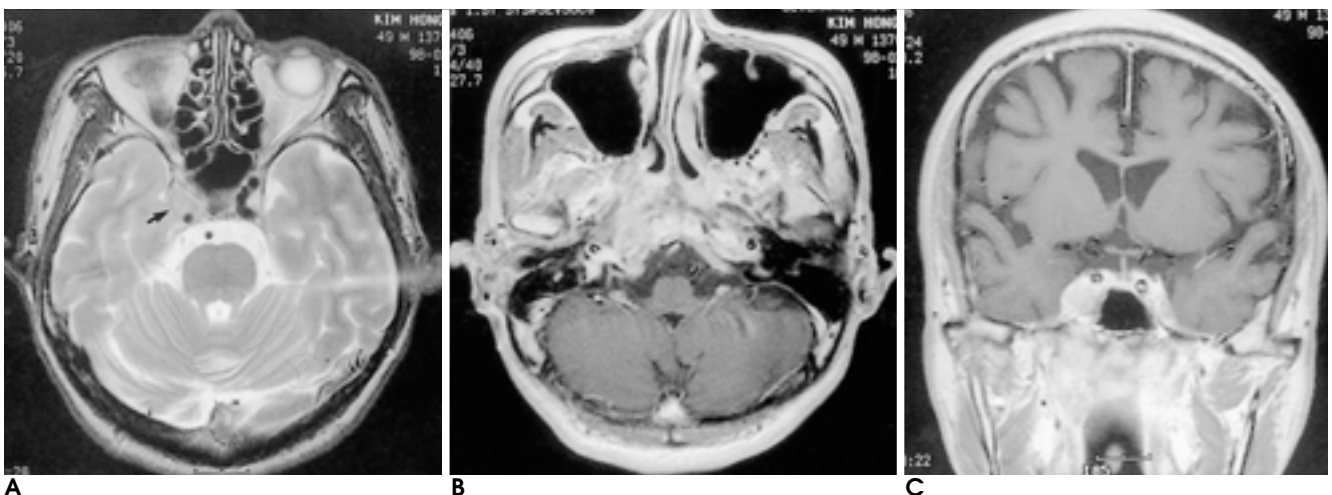


Fig. 11. Nasopharyngeal cancer of 49-year-old male.

A. On T2-weighted axial image, right Meckel's cave is filled with iso-signal intensity mass (arrow).

B. Contrast-enhanced T1-weighted axial image at more caudal level shows heterogeneously enhancing mass, obliterating right parapharyngeal space.

C. On contrast-enhanced T1-weighted coronal image, it is well-depicted that the nasopharyngeal mass is directly invading superiorly into right Meckel's cave.

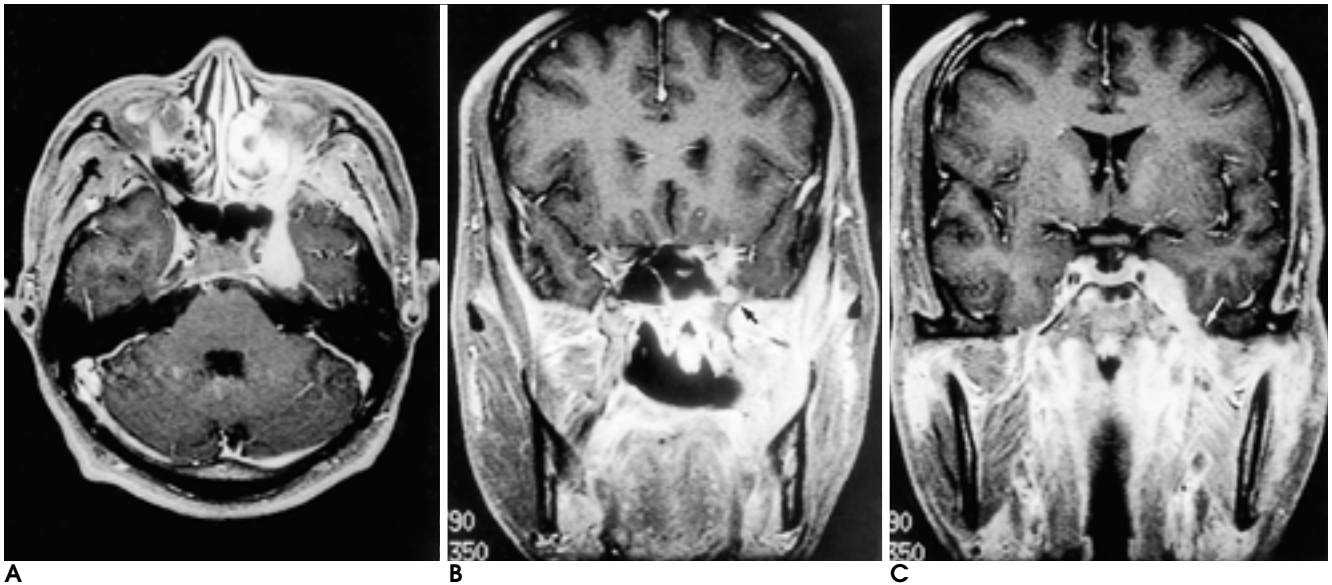


Fig. 13. Perineural extension of adenoid cystic carcinoma of left cavernous sinus in 41-year-old male.

A. Contrast-enhanced T1-weighted axial image shows well-enhancing mass of left Meckel's cave extending to left orbit through ophthalmic division of trigeminal nerve in superior orbital fissure.

B. On contrast-enhanced T1-weighted coronal image, the mass is extending to left pterygopalatine fossa through foramen rotundum. Note thickening of maxillary division (arrow) of left trigeminal nerve.

C. Contrast-enhanced T1-weighted coronal image, about 1cm dorsal to B, shows the mass of left Meckel's cave



is extending to left masticator space through mandibular division of trigeminal nerve in the foramen ovale.

D. The tumor extensions through ophthalmic (long arrows), maxillary (short arrow in left image), and mandibular (short arrow in right image) branches of trigeminal nerve are well-demonstrated on contrast-enhanced sagittal T1-weighted image.

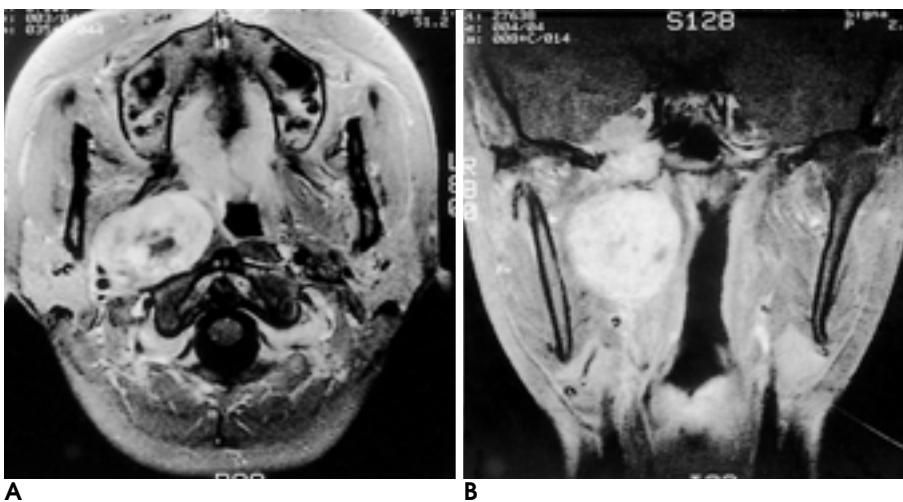


Fig. 14. Malignant schwannoma of parapharyngeal space in 24-year-old female.

A. Contrast-enhanced T1-weighted axial image shows large, well-circumscribed mass with central necrosis in the right parapharyngeal space. At the more cranial level (not shown), well-enhancing mass obliterating the right Meckel's cave is seen.

B. Contrast-enhanced T1-weighted coronal image demonstrates the tumor of right parapharyngeal space extending to Meckel's cave through the mandibular division of trigeminal nerve.

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(Fig. 14)가

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J Korean Radiol Soc 2001;44:309 - 316

MR Imaging of Trigeminal Neuropathy¹

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The trigeminal nerve is the largest of the cranial nerves and has both sensory and motor functions. It can be divided into proximal (brainstem, preganglionic, gasserian ganglion, and cavernous sinus) and distal (extracranial ophthalmic, maxillary, and mandibular) segments. Patients with trigeminal neuropathy present with a wide variety of symptoms, and lesions producing those symptoms may occur anywhere along the protracted course of the trigeminal nerve, from its distal facial branches to its nuclear columns in the brainstem. The purpose of this article is to illustrate the normal anatomy of the trigeminal nerve and associated various pathologic conditions. These are arranged anatomically according to their site of interaction with it.

Index words : Nerves, trigeminal
Nerves, diseases
Nerves, MR

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