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Retinal nerve fiber layer changes after trans-sphenoidal and trans-cranial pituitary adenoma resection

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Purpose: Retinal nerve fiber layer (RNFL) will show retrograde degeneration following damage to the optic nerve or the optic tract in patients with pituitary adenoma. RNFL changes after surgery have not been studied thoroughly in patients with the trans-sphenoidal surgery and patients with the trans-cranial surgery.

Methods: Thirty-seven patients with pituitary adenoma were recruited from Huashan hospital between September 2010 and July 2014. Patients were divided into two groups: the trans-sphenoidal group and the trans-cranial group. Before surgery, 3 and 9 months after surgery, follow-up optic coherence tomography was conducted.

Results: Twenty-one patients underwent trans-sphenoidal surgery and 16 patients underwent trans-cranial surgery. No obvious difference was observed between these two groups before surgery. The mean RNFL thickness did not change significantly in patients who underwent trans-sphenoidal surgery: 91.1 before surgery, 92.7 at 3 months after surgery (p=0.392) and 92.8 at 9 months after surgery (p=0.395). The mean RNFL thickness decreased in patients who underwent trans-cranial surgery: 93.6 before surgery, 86.1 at 3 months after surgery (p=0.000) and 88.1 at 9 months after surgery (p=0.005)

Conclusions: In the short time follow-up, there was no change of RNFL thickness in pituitary adenoma patients underwent transsphenoidal surgery, but a decrease in patients underwent trans-cranial surgery.

Biography

Qiao Nidan has completed his MD from Fudan University. He is the Neurosurgeon of Huashan Hospital, the largest neurosurgical center in China. He has published 5 papers in reputed journals.

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