

# Intraosseous Meningioma: Appearance on Bone Scintigraphy Over Five Years

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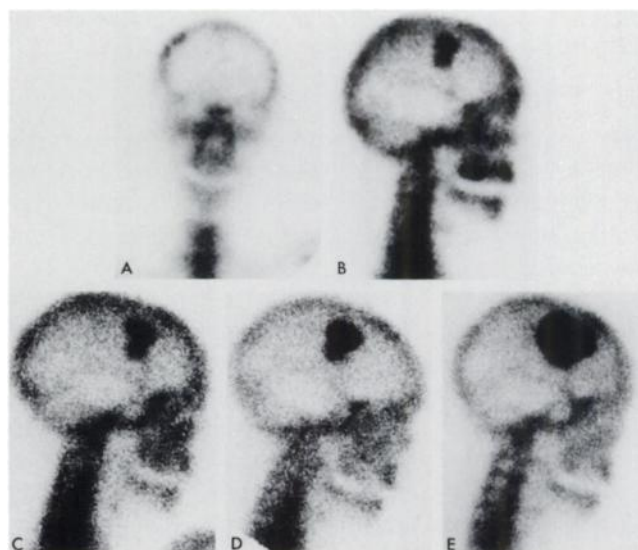
While meningiomas are common intradural tumors, such lesions only rarely arise outside of the meninges. All meningiomas, however, may slowly enlarge causing concern for malignancy. We report the appearance of an intraosseous meningioma in the patient with a history of breast carcinoma where the lesion progressively enlarged over a period of 5 yr to reach approximately three times the original size.

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**M**eningiomas most commonly occur as intradural tumors of the syncytial, fibroblastic or transitional type (1). Much less frequently, meningiomas occur in extradural regions with the lesions having been reported in the calvarium, scalp, paranasal sinuses, parotid glands, neck and skin (2-10). Detection of an intraosseous meningioma by bone scintigraphy has previously been reported (11). We report the appearance of such a lesion on sequential bone scintigrams involving the right frontoparietal region of the skull followed by bone scintigraphy with CT correlation over a period of 5 yr.

## CASE REPORT

A 42-yr-old female who had undergone a modified right radical mastectomy for invasive ductal carcinoma 2 yr previously was referred for initial bone scintigraphy. The bone scintigraphy performed following intravenous injection of 740 MBq of <sup>99m</sup>Tc-methylene diphosphonate (MDP) showed a smoothly margined zone of uniformity with intense increased uptake in the right frontoparietal region (Fig. 1). The clinical decision was made at the patient's request to follow this lesion with sequential bone scintigrams. Bone scintigrams obtained 1, 2, 3 and 5 yr later showed the abnormality to enlarge progressively (Fig. 1). Plain film radiographs obtained for correlation with each of the bone scintigrams were normal as was the intravenous contrast-enhanced computed tomography (CT) scan obtained at the time of the 5-yr bone scan (Fig. 2). On each of the whole-body scintigraphic examinations, the only abnormality was located in the right frontoparietal region. Because of increasing concern for the



**FIGURE 1.** Bone scintigrams obtained initially (A), after 1 yr (B), after 2 yr (C), after 3 yr (D) and after 5 yr (E) show a smoothly margined zone of uniformly intense increased uptake in the right frontoparietal region. Over time, the abnormality becomes more circular in configuration and enlarges in size by approximately a factor of three.

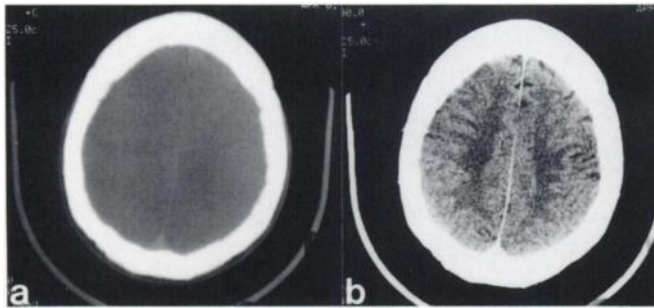
possibility of a solitary, slowly enlarging bone metastasis of breast carcinoma, biopsy was undertaken shortly after the 5-yr bone scintigram. Biopsy revealed intraosseous meningioma of the transitional type.

## DISCUSSION

Meningiomas account for approximately 15% of primary intracranial tumors. Characteristics of those intracranial meningiomas include: a rounded or globular form; attachment to meninges; spreading along the bony surface causing hyperostosis; detection by both radiography and scintigraphy (12). Meningiomas may also arise outside of the meninges from nests of arachnoid cells along the lines of fusion of the embryonic skull and spine or alternately from multipotential mesenchymal cells (13). Our review of the imaging literature uncovered a total of 25 reported cases of intraosseous meningiomas (2,11,13-29). On conventional radiographs these intraosseous lesions most frequently appear osteoblastic although they may be lytic. A limited number of cases have been reported on CT and magnetic resonance imaging (13,29), and we have found only one

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**FIGURE 2.** Transaxial intravenous contrast-enhanced CT scans through the center of the right frontoparietal abnormality displayed optimally for bone (A) [technique of Williams and Haughton (30)] and soft tissue (B) are normal. This CT exam was obtained following the most recent bone scintigram in Figure 1E.

case report on an intraosseous meningioma detected using bone scintigraphy (11). In addition, the relative sensitivity of different imaging modalities in detecting intraosseous meningioma does not appear to have been thoroughly investigated.

Our case report, in agreement with the previous scintigraphic report (11), found increased uptake of  $^{99m}\text{Tc}$ -MDP at the site of the intraosseous meningioma. We demonstrated that the increase in the scintigraphic uptake persists as long as 5 yr with the lesion gradually enlarging to approximately three times the original size. Conventional radiographs were consistently negative during this period of time as was a contrast-enhanced CT examination performed at the time of the 5-yr bone scintigram.

Intraosseous meningioma should be added to the list of benign skeletal pathologies (e.g., fibrous dysplasia, Paget's disease, intracranial meningioma, osteoid osteoma, osteomyelitis, brown tumor, neurofibromatosis and eosinophilic granuloma) that may produce uniformly intense increased uptake on bone scintigrams, enlarge in size over time and cause clinical concern for a solitary enlarging bone metastasis.

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