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Third nerve nucleus lesion after third ventricle's astrocytoma removal a case report.

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Tumors of the third ventricle in young patients raise specific problems, owing to their clinical and pathological presentations, treatment and outcome. There are some histological types in this age group: pitocytic astrocytoma, hypothalamic hamartoma, and choroids plexus tumors. Surgery is especially dangerous in young patients, because of the blood loss, the hemispheric collapse associated with the large hydrocephalus or the neurophysiological disorders.

Purpose: To describe an III nerve nuclei lesion caused by surgery for a tumor of the anterior portion of the third ventricle.

Case Report: FCM, female, 23 years old, was assisted in the Neurophthalmology Section of the Ophthalmology Department of UNIFESP-EPM on August, 2000 with complete bilateral paralysis of the III nerve consequent to the remov of astrocyma – grade II – associated with cavernous angioma, form the third ventricle. The diagnosis was established eight years ago by computerized tomography, was decided ventricle-peritoneal de compression, due to intracranial hypertension.

Conclusion: The III nerve nuclei lesion related in this case report occurred because of the difficulty of extracting the tumor from the third ventricle producing any lesion in the functional structures surrounding it. Damage to these structures explains the occurrence of neurophysiological disorders after surgery to remove the tumor.