NS-13. MANAGEMENT OF PINEAL REGION TUMORS IN CHILDREN AND YOUNG ADULTS IN GEORGIA
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OBJECTIVES: Tumors of the pineal region account for 0.5%- 1.6 % of brain tumors. Surgical treatment with aggressive tumor resection is the preferred method in most cases of this type of tumor. The aim of this study was the assessment of advantages of suboccipitalsupracerebellar approach to pineal region tumors. METHODS: 11 patients with pineal region tumors, which underwent open surgery by suboccipitalsupracerebellar approach.

RESULTS: All patients (Mean age 17,5, years old, 7 male /4 female) underwent neurosurgical intervention using suboccipitalsupracerebellar approach with total removal. MRI with contrast had been done in all patients before and after surgery. Pathological investigation were revealed -5 pineocytoma, 4 pineoblastoma, 2 meningioma. Neurological assessment revealed the following: visual and ocular movement were impaired in 3 patients, imbalance and ataxia were found in 4, resolved in 3-6 months, long-term outcome was good in all patients. 6 of them completely recovered, in 1 patients – revealed only neurological signs, which did not interfere in everyday life. 4 patients with pineoblastoma underwent radiation therapy and chemotherapy. In all cases marked hydrocephalus presented before operation. In four cases with pineoblastoma the surgical needs the shunt between third ventricle and cisterna magna. In 7 patients cerebrospinal fluid flow restored spontaneously. In one case after operation we revealed subarachnoid hemorrhages, which was resolved during one week, which is cause of transient worsening the symptoms.

CONCLUSION: Our results suggest that suboccipital supracerebellar approach in cases of pineal region tumors is useful, valuable and sufficient to shape the surgical access to achieve total tumor removal.