

## **Primary Ewing's Sarcoma of the Temporal Bone: An Unusual Case with Metastasis at a Distance**

*Primary Ewing's Sarcoma of the Temporal Bone: An Unusual Case with Distant Metastasis*

Primary Ewing sarcoma of the temporal bone: an unusual case with metastasis to distance

Anna Deborah Esmeraldo dos Santos

Specialist in Otolaryngology and Head and Neck Surgery  
Forensic Expertise of the State of Ceará

<https://orcid.org/0009-0008-9898-3354> Fortaleza –

Ceará

[deboraesmeraldos@gmail.com](mailto:deboraesmeraldos@gmail.com)

*Mikhael Ranier Leite Ramalho*, Specialist

in Otolaryngology, General Hospital of Fortaleza,

Fortaleza – Ceará, Brazil. [https://](https://orcid.org/)

[orcid.org/](https://orcid.org/)

[0000-0001-5608-7676](https://orcid.org/0000-0001-5608-7676)

*Artur Guilherme Holanda Lima*, Specialist

in Otolaryngology, Estácio de Canindé Faculty,

Fortaleza – Ceará, Brazil. [https://](https://orcid.org/)

[orcid.org/](https://orcid.org/)

[0009-0009-6162-3248](https://orcid.org/0009-0009-6162-3248)

*João Paulo Romeiro Santiago Cavalcante*, Specialist in

Pathological Anatomy, Instituto de Medicina

Integral Professor Fernando Figueira, Fortaleza – Ceará, Brazil. [[https://](https://orcid.org/)

[orcid.org/](https://orcid.org/)

[0009-0009-1454-992X](https://orcid.org/0009-0009-1454-992X)](<https://orcid.org/0009-0009-1454-992X> )

*Erika Ferreira Gomes*, PhD

in Otolaryngology, General Hospital of

Fortaleza, Fortaleza – Ceará, Brazil.

<https://orcid.org/>

0000-0002-8165-4609

*José Gumercindo Vasconcelos Rolim*

Master's degree in Oncology

Fortaleza General Hospital

Fortaleza – Ceará

<https://orcid.org/0009-0007-9638-0325>

## Summary

**Introduction:** Ewing's sarcoma is a rare and aggressive type of cancer that affects...

bone or soft tissues, originating from precursor cells of bone tissue or

peripheral nervous system, with the peak incidence occurring in the second decade of life.

They are most commonly found in long bones, but can rarely affect the

Head and neck region. **Report:** The case presented is that of a teenage girl.

A 13-year-old female who initially presented with left-sided ear pain and

He subsequently developed ipsilateral peripheral facial paralysis. The diagnosis

Subsequent examination revealed a primary Ewing's sarcoma of the temporal bone. **Discussion:** The

The topics discussed include the evolution of the disease, its clinical and pathological characteristics, as well as...

including the diagnostic and therapeutic methods employed in this case. **Conclusions:**

This is an extremely rare case of Ewing's sarcoma of the temporal bone with

Distant metastases. The evolution of this case reinforces the need for constant monitoring.

monitoring and considering the possibility of remote dissemination, guiding the

establishing personalized treatment protocols that seek to optimize the

clinical outcomes in such unique and challenging situations.

**Keywords:** Ewing's sarcoma. Facial paralysis. Head and neck neoplasms.

## Abstract

**Introduction:** Ewing's sarcoma is a rare and aggressive type of cancer that affects bone

or soft tissues. It originates from precursor cells of bone tissue or the peripheral nervous

system, with its incidence peaking during the second decade of life. It is most commonly

found in long bones but can, rarely, affect the head and neck region. **Case Report:** This

case involves a 13-year-old female adolescent who initially presented with left-sided

otalgia and developed subsequently ipsilateral peripheral facial paralysis. Subsequent

diagnosis revealed a primary Ewing's sarcoma of the temporal bone. **Discussion:** The

discussion covers the disease progression, its clinical and pathological characteristics, as

as well as the diagnostic and therapeutic methods applied in this case. **Conclusions:** This is

an extremely rare case of Ewing's sarcoma of the temporal bone with distant metastases.

The progression of this case highlights the need for constant vigilance and the

consideration of the potential for distant spread, guiding the establishment of

personalized treatment protocols aimed at optimizing clinical outcomes in such unique and challenging situations.

**Keywords:** Sarcoma, Ewing. Facial Paralysis. Head and Neck Neoplasms.

## **1. Introduction**

Ewing's sarcoma, a histopathological subtype of sarcoma composed of small Round cell carcinoma, which frequently affects the long bones of the limbs and trunk, was first described by James Ewing in 1921. It is much more commonly observed in Caucasian children and adolescents, and somewhat more common in individuals of It is more common in males and is generally diagnosed in the second decade of life. Among the which are located in the skull, an extremely small percentage may be develop in the temporal bone, usually involving the frontal, parietal or ethmoid 2.

A complex case of primary Ewing's sarcoma of the temporal bone is presented, with Intracranial extension, affecting a 13-year-old female adolescent. age, focusing on clinical manifestations, diagnostic challenges faced, and a multidisciplinary approach, which was essential for the formulation of a plan. appropriate therapy. The finding of distant metastasis shows that This is an atypical presentation of the disease, as there is only one case described in the literature with a similar evolution. The study was approved by the Ethics Committee and Research (CEP) with CAEE no. 71314223.9.3001.5042 and is linked to the Hospital Albert Sabin Children's Hospital – CE.

## **2. Case Report**

A 13-year-old female adolescent presented with a history of left-sided otalgia. associated with pain in the ipsilateral mandibular region, initially with partial relief after use of nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs, in addition to sporadic episodes of vertigo Rotational pain and nausea. Over three months, it progressed to left-sided peripheral facial paralysis. ipsilateral progressive hearing loss, mild dysarthria, intermittent liquid dysphagia, She reported bloody otorrhea and a significant worsening of pain intensity, which led her to...

seeking medical attention, she was referred to the General Hospital of Strength.

On physical examination, the patient presented with peripheral facial paralysis on the left, House-Brackmann 4, as well as a polypoid lesion protruding from the auditory canal. left (Figure 1).

**Figure 1:** Polypoid lesion protruding from the left auditory canal. (A) Onset.

(B) After 3 months



A head and neck computed tomography (CT) scan with contrast revealed

A lesion showing contrast enhancement in the region of the left jugular foramen, with erosion of the adjacent temporal bone, communication with mastoid cells and ear.

middle ear and involvement of the components of the inner ear, with compression of the ipsilateral sigmoid sinus and jugular bulb by the posterior component, measuring 3.0 x 1.9 2.3 cm x 2.3 cm. Initially, it was hypothesized to be a low-grade neoplastic lesion.

Aggressiveness (such as meningioma, paraganglioma, or schwannoma) or apical petrositis.

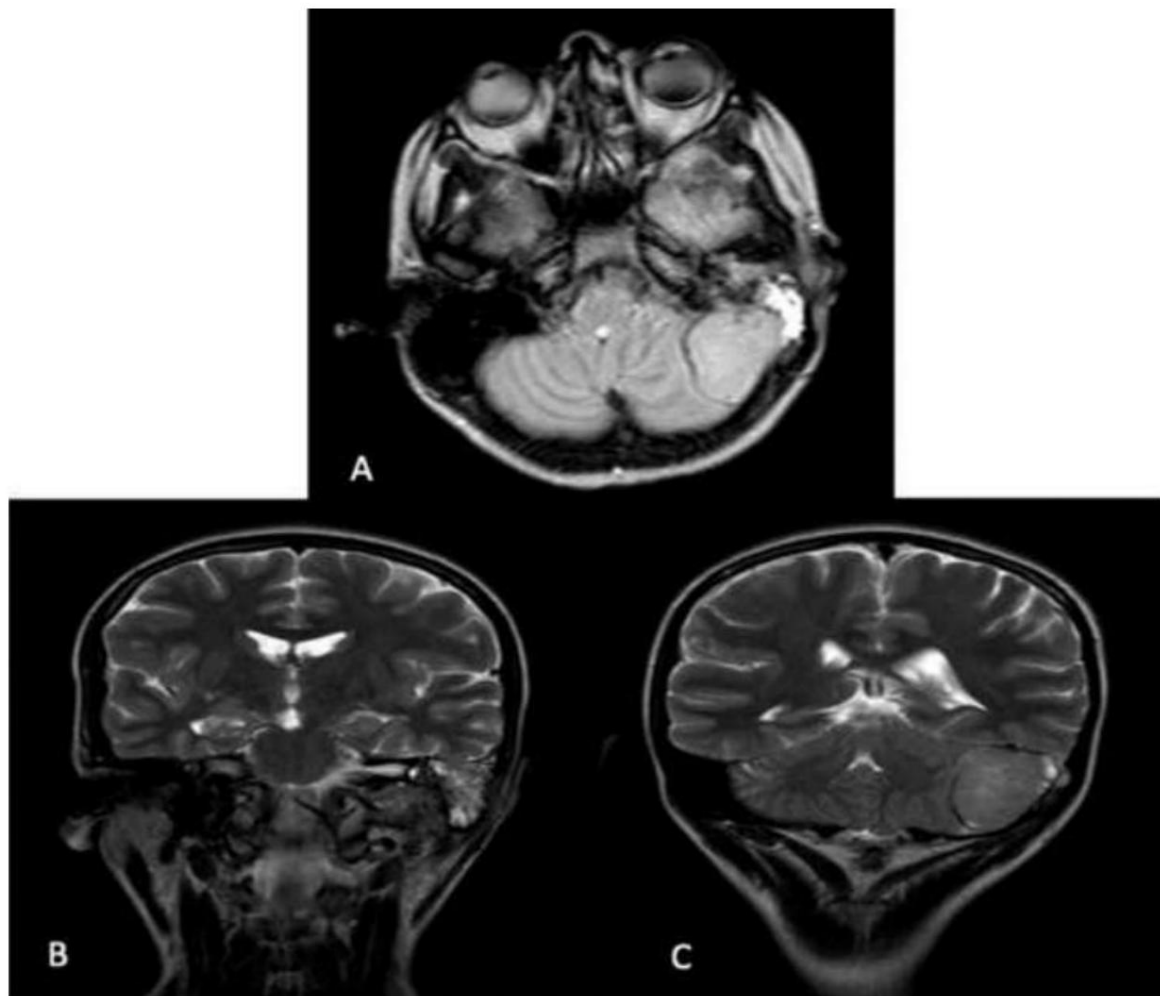
A cranial Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) scan was also performed, which showed that the lesion

It showed predominantly isointense signal on T1 and T2, infiltrating the space.

left parotid gland, with involvement of the deep portion of the parotid gland,

extending to the left posterior fossa, leading to thrombosis of the sigmoid sinus, bulb jugular and the cranial aspect of the internal jugular vein on the left (Figure 2). In Audiometry revealed profound mixed hearing loss on the left and a hearing threshold Normal on the right.

**Figure 2:** MRI revealing expansive extra-axial lesion in the pre-cerebellar cistern, extending to the tympanic cavity, external auditory canal, and ipsilateral jugular foramen. (A) Axial section – FLAIR (B) Coronal section - T2 (C) Coronal section - T2



Opting for joint surgery with an otolaryngology team, surgery head and neck and neurosurgery. Preoperatively, she underwent angiography. Cerebral and external carotid branch embolization. The surgical procedure It consisted of a partial left temporalectomy with muscle flap rotation.

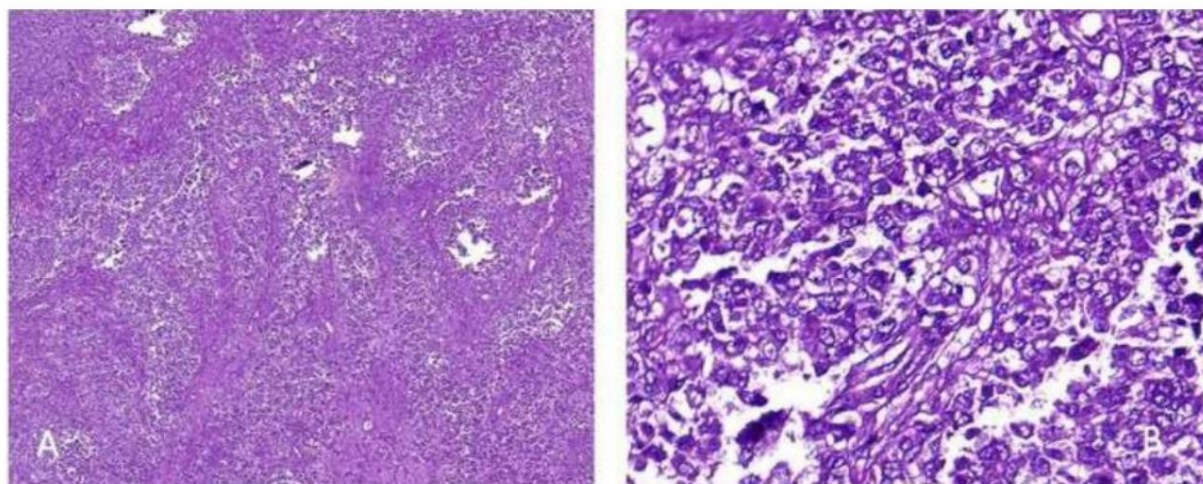
temporal, and during surgery, it was observed that there was tumor invasion of the dura mater. mater and posterior fossa.

The histopathological examination showed it to be a poorly differentiated neoplasm with a pattern of Rounded or slightly elongated cells, with hyperchromasia and nuclear polymorphism.

eosinophilic cytoplasm, in desmoplastic stroma, with a focal area in which such cells organize themselves into nests of uncohesive cells, with an alveolar pattern, containing fibrous bands interspersed (Figure 3). Immunological examination suggested.

Histochemical analysis of lesion histogenesis revealed a pattern consistent with Undifferentiated CD99-positive neoplasm, morphologically suggestive of sarcoma of Ewing.

**Figure 3:** Histological sections stained with hematoxylin-eosin (HE). (A) Nests of poorly cohesive cells with an alveolar pattern. (B) Poorly differentiated neoplasm with round or scantily elongated cells, eosinophilic cytoplasm, desmoplastic stroma, hyperchromasia, and nuclear polymorphism



After the histopathological report, the patient was referred to the Children's Hospital. Albert Sabin (HIAS), aiming at the follow-up of her treatment. At HIAS, the patient It maintains joint monitoring with pediatric oncology, oncogenetics, nutrition and psychology. She underwent tests for tumor staging, including a bone marrow aspirate, which did not... showed evidence of the presence of tumor cells; bone scintigraphy did not demonstrate other areas with suspected increased osteogenic activity; neck CT scans, thorax, upper abdomen and pelvis, which allowed visualization, however, of lesions

osteolytic lesions in the right ilium and in the vertebral body of L1, which constituted lesions metastatic.

The patient has opted to begin treatment with radiotherapy and chemotherapy. She continues to be... Treatment at HIAS, with a good response to the established therapy.

### **3. Discussion**

Although metastases of Ewing's sarcoma (ES) are generally common, there is only one

Another case described in the literature involves metastatic lesions originating from a primary SE of skull, making the current report the second to demonstrate the existence of metastases to the skull.

distance. In this way, there is a better prognosis when it comes to an injury.

primary cranial injury, when compared to primary injuries in other parts of the body 3.

Early diagnosis is of utmost importance, as the tumor exhibits growth.

Extremely fast. The radiological examination is essential to help determine the

To determine the extent of the disease, as well as to define appropriate therapeutic strategies.

It is possible to use Computed Tomography (CT), which offers a better

evaluation of the cortical bone, in addition to allowing detailed examination of the skull base; of

Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (MRI), which provides adequate analysis of soft tissues.

and enables the determination of invasion of the spinal cord, orbit, and intracranial region; and of

Positron Emission Tomography (PET-CT) to investigate the existence of

distant metastases 4.

Despite all the resources available, the diagnosis of SE is difficult to confirm.

Histopathological analysis combined with immunohistochemistry is the gold standard . 5. Characteristics

Histopathological findings include small, round, monomorphic cells with cytoplasm.

Sparse, round nuclei and imperceptible nucleoli. Genetic molecular analysis.

highlighting the chromosomal translocation on chromosome 22q12 is pathognomonic.

Overexpression of CD99, a transmembrane protein encoded by the MIC-2 gene, is

another useful marker detected by immunohistochemistry 6.

Advances in multimodal therapy have considerably improved survival rates.

For sarcomas in general. The treatment of intracranial SE had a good prognosis.

relatively worse, when only surgery and radiotherapy were listed as options.

treatment, with a survival rate of approximately 10% at 5 years. However, with the

Introduction of chemotherapy combined with radiotherapy, the survival rate in Over the past 5 years, it has increased significantly, reaching 53% 7. It is imperative to highlight the importance of multidisciplinary team participation in monitoring and treatment of this type of cancer, involving otolaryngology, head and nose surgery neck surgery, neurosurgery, speech therapy, pediatrics, oncology, among other professionals. health professionals, for the efficient management of case 4. Such teamwork allows for Investigation from different perspectives, aiming for greater accuracy in management. of the condition.

This is an extremely rare case of Ewing's sarcoma of the temporal bone with distant metastases. The scarcity of similar reports reinforces the complexity and the The exceptional nature of this clinical scenario is emphasized. Furthermore, the imperative need for a... early diagnosis, based on radiological, histopathological and immunological examinations- Histochemistry, which proves to be crucial for the viability of an effective treatment. In this context, the use of a multidisciplinary therapeutic approach, encompassing Surgical intervention, chemotherapy, and radiotherapy are of crucial importance. The evolution of this case reinforces the need for constant vigilance and consideration of possibility of remote dissemination, guiding the establishment of protocols personalized treatment plans that aim to optimize clinical outcomes in various situations. so unique and challenging.

## References

1. Kawano H, Nitta N, Ishida M, Fukami T, Nozaki K. Primary pericranial Ewing's sarcoma on the temporal bone: A case report. *Surg Neurol Int.* 2016 Jun 3;7(Suppl 15):S444-8.
2. Vishnoi JR, Kumar V, Srivastava K, Misra S. Primary Ewing's sarcoma of the temporalis bone: a rare entity and review of the literature. *BMJ Case Rep.* 2019 Oct 23;12(10):e230768.
3. Scharz D, Divakar P, Tafe L, Paydarfar J. Primary Ewing's sarcoma of the petroclival bone: A case report and literature review. *Surg Neurol Int.* 2020 Jan 10;11:6.

4. Huh WW, Fitzgerald N, Mahajan A, Sturgis EM, Beverly Raney R, Anderson PM. Pediatric sarcomas and related tumors of the head and neck. *Cancer Treat Rev.* 2011

Oct;37(6):431-9.

5. Alakeel AM, N. A, M. SI, et al. Ewing's Sarcoma of Temporal Bone: Case Report. *Egypt J Hospital Med* 2018; 71(1):2310–2314.

6. Kadar AA, Hearst MJ, Collins MH, Mangano FT, Samy RN. Ewing's Sarcoma of the Petrous Temporal Bone: Case Report and Literature Review. *SkullBase.* 2010  
May;20(3):213-7.

7. Desai K, Goel A, Nadkarni TD. Primary petrous bone Ewing's sarcoma. *Br J Neurosurg.* 2000 Apr;14(2):143-5.

#### **Required Declarations (to be filled in)**

#### **Ethical approval (CEP/CONEP or equivalent)**

Yes  Not applicable

Opinion/Registration Number: CAEE No. 71314223.9.3001.5042

Informed Consent Form:  Yes  Not applicable

Study registration (when applicable):  ReBEC  ICTRP/WHO  ClinicalTrials.gov

Others: \_\_\_\_\_

Registration number: \_\_\_\_\_

Reporting guideline (EQUATOR):  CONSORT  STROBE  PRISMA  CARE

COREQ/SRQR  SQUIRE  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Data Sharing Statement (ICMJE)**

**Anonymized data:**  will be shared  will not be shared

**What data:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Additional documents (protocol/plan/methods):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Availability period:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Access conditions:** \_\_\_\_\_