Schwannomas account for 16-30% of all intraspinal tumors. Schwannoma is a neurogenic tumor which originates from nerve sheath that it is relatively well-margined tumor with little attachment or adhesion to surrounding tissue. Pain is the most common and usually the first symptom produced by extramedullary spinal tumors. Particularly, the pain has radicular character in schwannomas affecting single nerve roots. Total 20 cases of intradural schwannomas were retrospectively reviewed. We evaluated thermal change in tumor lesion and compared with electrophysiologic findings. The tumor location was cervical 5 cases, thoracic 5 cases, lumbar 10 cases. The thermographic finding of tumor lesion was thermal asymmetry and hypothermic thermotomal lesion. The dermatomal symptom of the radicular pain was consistent with thermotomal lesion (60%), but myelopathic symptom was not typical thermotomal lesion. Also, a half cases (50%) were relation between the electrophysiologic findings and dermatomal finding of schwannomas.

Therefore, the thermography must be another easy methods for achieving symptom assement of intradural extramedullary spinal cord schwannoma. Because, it is neither invasive nor uncomfortable.

Keywords: Schwannoma, electrophysiologic, thermography,