Case Report

Extraskeletal Osteosarcoma of Penis: A Case Report

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ABSTRACT

Extraskeletal osteosarcoma (EOS) is rare and commonly arises in the retroperitoneum, limbs, head and neck. There is no significant difference between EOS and other malignant tumors in soft tissue. Localized pain and swelling are the common presenting symptoms. Clinical diagnosis of EOS is difficult, imaging techniques may be helpful and careful, and the histopathological analysis is necessary. The common histological variants of EOS include: osteoblastoma, chondroblastoma, and fibroblastoma, and other unusual subtypes were reported occasionally. It should be distinguished with myositis ossificans, malignant mesenchymoma, giant cell tumor and parosteal osteosarcoma. We present an EOS arising in the penis. The primary site and histological category of the tumor were extremely rare. We hope the case will be helpful to the recognition of clinical signs, iconography and histopathology of EOS.

Key words: Extraskeletal osteosarcoma; Penis; Giant cell

INTRDUCTION

Extraskeletal osteosarcoma (EOS) is a malignant mesenchymal neoplasm which is located in soft tissues. It is an extremely rare disease, accounting for only 4% of osteosarcoma and 1% of soft tissue sarcomas^[1]. Clinical diagnosis of EOS is difficult, X-ray, CT and magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) techniques may be helpful to the detection of primary site, volume and relationship with the surrounding tissue of the tumor^[2], and significant to the choice of operation. Careful histopathological analysis is necessary to final diagnosis. Here we report an EOS of penis.

CASE REPORT

Clinical examination: A 68-year-old man presented a tender subcutaneous nodule of the penis. The nodule had localized pain and grew from about 0.3 cm \times 0.3 cm \times 0.3 cm to 1.2 cm \times 0.8 cm \times 0.5 cm in a year.

Physical examination: A 1.2 cm \times 0.8 cm \times 0.5 cm mass can be touched 0.8 cm right to coronary sulcus. There was no red swelling of the skin and abnormal temperature. The edge of the mass was clear. The mobility of the mass was poor. The scrotum and orchis

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of the patient were normal, and there was no touched intumescent lymph node in inguen. The operation was performed in May, 2009.

Operation findings: The patient received 1% Lidocaine injection at the root of penis and the surgery was performed. The skin and subcutaneous tissue were dissected to segregate the mass. The tumor slightly adhered to the surrounding tissue but did not invade to tunica albuginea. Finally the mass was excised and a histological diagnosis was made.

Follow-up records: The patient was floating population. There was no other treatment except antiinflammatory treatment after operation. The patient was followed up for 10 months, and then lost the connection with us.

Pathology

Gross: The neoplasm without envelope was grayish-white, grayish-pink and 1.5 cm×1 cm×1 cm. The cut surface of the mass was grayish-white and rigid, and had sense of grit and no weaving shapes.

Microscopy: The cells in the tumor were widespread and irregular, mainly spindle and ovoid. The cytoplasm of the cells is basophilic (Figure 1). The nuclei are obviously atypical, mostly clostridial form and polygons (Figure 2). Massive bone matrix coexisted with multinucleated giant cells can be found everywhere in the tumor. Tumor cells were in palisade arrangement and most commonly seen in and around the bone matrix

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(Figure 3). In some instances, 3.5 to dozen nuclei can be seen in a single multinucleated giant cell (Figure 4).

Immunological markers: Immunostaining was positive for vimentin, CD99, Bcl-2 and epithelial membrane antigen (EMA) (Figure 5), and negative for CK, S-100, desmin and CD34.

Pathological diagnosis: Penile primary EOS, giant cell-rich tumor.



Figure 1. Bone formation can be seen in all parts of the tumor (×100).



Figure 2. The nuclei in the spindle cells are obviously heterotypic (×400).



Figure 3. Tumor cells surrounding the interstitial substance are in palisade arrangement (×200).



Figure 4. In a single giant cell, 3.5 to dozen nuclei can be seen (×400).



Figure 5. Immunostaining was positive for vimentin, CD99, Bcl-2 and EMA **A:** Vimentin (×400); **B:** CD99 (×400); **C:** Bcl-2 (×200); **D:** EMA (×200).

DISCUSSION

EOS is a malignant mesenchymal neoplasm that is located in soft tissues without direct attachment to skeletal system. EOS was first reported by Wilson in 1941^[3]. It is extremely rare, accounting for only 1% of soft tissue sarcomas. Distinct to osteosarcoma usually afflicting young people, EOS mainly affect people after 50 years old, and the mean age was 54.6 years (range 16–87 years)^[4,5]. Trauma and radiation are welldocumented predisposing factors^[6].

Most people consider that multipotential mesenchymal cells develop to allotypic osteoblasts, leading to the growth of EOS. The precisely origin is not clear now. EOS most commonly arises in the retroperitoneum and the muscles of thighs and limb girdles, rarely in lung, prostate, scalp, mammary gland, spermatic cord, pelvis and orbit. EOS of the penis is exceedingly rare; only six other well-documented cases have been reported in the