A Case of Paratesticular Atypical Lipomatous Tumor/Well-Differentiated Liposarcoma

Paratestiküler Atipik Lipom/İyi Diferansiye Liposarkom Olgusu

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ABSTRACT

A very rare case of paratesticular atypical lipomatous tumor/a case of well-differentiated liposarcoma diagnosed in an elderly patient is presented together with macroscopic surgical photographs and photographs of microscopic pathological sections.

Key Words
Paratesticular, mass, liposarcoma, orchiectomy

Introduction

Soft tissue cancers, so called sarcomas, have a very low ratio among all cases of cancer; as well paratesticular liposarcoma occurs very rarely compared to many other soft tissue cancers (1,2,3). Therefore in this case report, a paratesticular liposarcoma diagnosed in an elder man is presented together with macroscopic surgical photographs and photographs of microscopic pathological sections.

Case Report

An 85 year old man admitted to the urology clinics for painless huge scrotal swelling which had increased in size within last 5 years and for walking difficulty due to this huge scrotal swelling. The physical examination revealed normal bilateral testicles together with 3 cm firm solid mass next to the left epididymis and huge soft tissue fulfilling the left scrotum with an approximately 10 cm diameter. Ultrasonography and Doppler studies detected no testicular mass but a left scrotal solid, hyperechoic and heterogeneous mass without clear cut borders. Under spinal anesthesia, the patient was performed radical high inguinal orchiectomy and left spermatic cord, left testis and paratesticular mass was resected out en bloc (Figure 1). Macroscopic pathological examination revealed a partially encapsulated 11x9.5 cm soft yellow colored paratesticular mass compressing spermatic cord and causing fluid accumulation around the testis and a 3.5x3.3 cm solid cream colored encapsulated paratesticular mass which was lobulated with fibrotic bands (Figure 1).

The histopathological evaluation revealed atypical lipomatous tumor/well-differentiated liposarcoma with negative surgical margins (Figure 2). There were no abnormal findings in the postoperative abdominal computed tomography. The patient is still under follow up with an uneventful postoperative period of 18 months.

Discussion

Sarcomas have a ratio of 0.7% (11,280/1,638,910) irrespective of sex within estimated annual new cancer cases in the USA (1). However, genitourinary sarcomas are very rare such that retrospective patient database analyses of past 25 year period between 1997 and 2013 in the Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center detected 131 cases of genitourinary sarcomas (2). Again, a multi-centered study in Toscana, a wide region of Italy, reported 22 cases with genitourinary sarcomas within a period of 18 years (3). In both studies above mentioned the most common histological sub-types of sarcomas were leiomyosarcoma (29% and 37% respectively) and liposarcoma (26% and 27% respectively) (2,3). The most common reported location of...
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In paratesticular sarcomas, the most common location is the paratesticular area (44% and 41%), and the most common histological sub-type is liposarcoma (56%) (2,3).

Compared to other histological variants of sarcomas, liposarcomas tend to be low-grade histologically (2,4). Sarcomas generally present a bigger size at the time of diagnosis, thus they may necessitate resection of organs in the close proximity for their complete resection (2,4,5). Well-differentiated sarcomas tend to recur locally, whereas undifferentiated ones tend to make diffuse metastases (4). However, both well-differentiated sarcomas and undifferentiated ones, especially retroperitoneal ones necessitating resection of organs in the close proximity, have been reported to be more aggressive biologically (6). Thus, en bloc resection of liposarcomas together with organs next to them seems to be more proper in case of gross mass volume and/or no clear surgical plane of resection between mass and organs in the close proximity. In this present case, due to these reasons together with his rather elder age, radical inguinal orchiectomy was performed.

Disease-specific survival of sarcomas is affected by factors like anatomical location, tumor size and grade, presence of local recurrence or metastasis and incomplete resection (2,3,4). Low-grade liposarcomas in the extremity or upper body have a 5-year
survival rate of 95% whereas this rate falls to 50% in the high grade retroperitoneal or visceral liposarcomas (4). In case of genitourinary sarcomas, in accordance with other variants of sarcomas, general survival is affected by location, grade and size of tumors (3). Tumor diameter above 5 cm, high histological grade and non-paratesticular location of tumor were associated with poor prognosis (3). The survival rates of paratesticular sarcomas were reported as 88.9%, 88.9% and 74.1% for 1-year, 3-year and 5 year periods respectively (3). Though surgery was generally reported to be sufficient for the treatment of paratesticular sarcomas, adjuvant doxorubicin-based chemotherapies were given in case of worse histological types like rhabdomyosarcoma and fibrous histiocytoma (3).

As a conclusion, paratesticular sarcomas are seen very rare and surgical en bloc resection is necessary in the treatment of these paratesticular sarcomas.

Conflict of interest
There are no conflicts of interest.

References