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Schneiderian Oncocytic Papilloma: A Rare Malignant Transformation

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Abstract
Sinonasal oncocytic papillomasare uncommon benign neoplasms that arise from the sinonasal schneiderian epithelium. Malignancies arising in oncocytic schneiderian papilloma (OSPs) are rare. We reported a case of a 92-year old woman who was suffering from right nasal block for few years. Later he presented with worsening of the symptom, causing snoring and difficulty in breathing. The intraoperative biopsy taken from the lesion turned out to be squamous cell carcinoma.
Keywords: *Sinonasal, papilloma, malignancy, snoring.*

Introduction

Schneiderian papillomas, also known as sinonasal papillomas, are benign sinonasal tumors that arise from the Schneiderian epithelium of the paranasal sinuses and nasal cavity.

Despite their histologic benignity, sinonasal papillomas have a small potential for malignant transformation. Virtually all serious complications of sinonasal papillomas, including progression to local invasionand development of a subsequent malignancy, have been associated with the inverted papilloma and a small cases of oncocytic papilloma. The exophytic papilloma type has essentially no malignant potential.

The etiology of oncocytic Schneiderian papillomas remains unknown. However, it should be considered in the differential diagnosis of unilateral nasal polypoid lesions clinically.

Case Summary

A 92 years old woman presented with snoring and obstructive apnea symptom for few years. She also complained of right nasal blockage. Otherwise, there was no other ear, nose and throat symptoms.

On examination, there is a huge mass occupying the whole right nasal cavity. Left nasal examination was normal. Biopsy from the nasal mass taken twice and was suggestive of sinonasal oncocytic papilloma.

Patient was then planned for endoscopic endonasal excision of right masal mass under general anesthesia. Surgery was done uneventful. Intraoperative finding was a tumour arising from right anterior ethmoid extending anterior and protruding out from right nostril, extending posteriorly to nasopharynx. It was completely excised. Mucous was seen draining out from right maxillary sinus and right frontal sinus.

After two weeks, patients come back to clinic for follow up with intraoperative biopsy turned out to be sinonasal papilloma (oncocytic type) with malignant transformation (small foci of moderately differentiated non keratinizing squamous cell carcinoma).

She was well during the follow up and was referred to oncology for radiotherapy.

Discussion

Schneiderian oncocytic papilloma are uncommon, the rarest of the three subtypes and represent only 0.4% to 4.7% of all sinonasal tumors.[1] They. often exhibit overlapping papillary and/or glandular features, on histological examination. As a result, they may be confused or even mistaken for metastatic tumors.[2]

Because of their rarity, Schneiderian papillomas are interesting lesions that have been the subject of clinicopathological and therapeutic controversy.[2]

Sinonasal papillomas occur in a wide age range, but most cases are seen between 6 and 85 years of age.[3,4-6] They are uncommon in children and the youngest patient reported in the literature was 6 years old.4Schneiderian oncocytic papilloma occurs in both men and women. Males are twice as often as females.[7] The majority of patients were above 50 years of age at the time of diagnosis. They are exclusively located in the lateral nasal wall or in the ethmoid and maxillary sinuses.[8]

Malignant transformation is a crucial event affecting the clinical outcome in oncocytic papilloma and inverted papilloma. Exophytic papilloma is not associated with an increased incidence of malignancies. The carcinoma can develop metachronously after sinonasal papilloma resection in the site of surgical excision or can occur with a synchronous sinonasal papilloma. Metachronous carcinoma are always preceded by sinonasal papilloma recurrences.

The treatment for schneiderian oncocytic papilloma is surgical always. Postoperative chemotherapy or radiotherapy may be necessary, usually when there are signs of associated malignancies.[9,10,11]

Conclusion

Schneiderian oncocytic papilloma is rare. However it should always be considered in any patients present with nasal blockage and other symptoms suggestive of sinonasal papilloma. By early diagnosis and appropriate treatment plan, the quality of life of the patient will be better and the life span of these patients may be prolonged further.

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