

Fibromyxoma of Inguinal Region – A Rare Case

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Abstract: A 60-year-old man presented with a slow-growing, painless, subcutaneous lesion in the right inguinal region. The mass was 20.0 cm × 10.5 cm × 5.0 cm in size, well circumscribed, mobile, and rubbery. Microscopically, the resected mass was mainly composed by a proliferation of small spindle or stellate cells, variably admixed with mature adipose tissue, embedded within an abundant myxoid and collagenized stroma. Immunohistochemically, the spindle and stellate cells were strongly positive for vimentin, CD34, and bcl-2 antibodies but not for smooth muscle actin and desmin. The tumor was diagnosed as fibromyxoma based on the typical findings of histology and immunohistochemistry. This is probably the first case to be reported in literature for a fibromyxoma in inguinal region.

Keywords: Fibromyxoma, Inguinal region, rare case, immunohistochemistry

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I. Introduction

Fibromyxolipoma is a rare benign soft tissue lesion that most commonly arises in the subcutis or muscular fascia of the head and neck, shoulders, calf, foot, or back in adult male patients. The characteristic histologic picture is described as an admixture of mature adipose tissue, spindle and stellate cells, and abundant myxoid stroma with prominent collagenization. These neoplasms typically show positive immunoreactivity for CD34, bcl-2 and Vimentin.

II. Case Report

A 60-year-old man was first seen by us 3 years after becoming aware of a painless subcutaneous mass in his right inguinal region. The swelling was initially small in size and gradually progressed to the current size. The mass is irreducible and does not become more prominent coughing or straining. He did not have any associated constitutional symptoms.

On physical examination, a single well defined 20 cm × 10 cm × 7 cm size mass was in subcutaneous plane on right inguinal region just above the inguinal ligament, mobile, firm in consistency and irreducible.

Ultrasonography (US) revealed a well circumscribed, inhomogeneous mass with prominent vascularity, measuring about 19.7 cm × 9.2 cm × 6.8 cm, in the right inguinal region. Firstly, it was clinically considered to be soft tissue swelling in subcutaneous plane probably lipoma. Ultrasonography suggested a well homogenous mass with well rounded margins in subcutaneous plane lying over external oblique aponeurosis. FNAC suggested lipoma. Excision and biopsy was done.

Macroscopically, the excised tumor was 24.0 × 10.5 × 5.0 cm in size, soft and well-circumscribed by a thin fibrous capsule. The cut surface was yellow-gray and mucoid. Histologically, the tumor was mainly composed by a proliferation of small spindle or stellate cells variably admixed with mature adipose tissue embedded within an abundant myxoid and collagenized stroma. The spindle cells had a small hyperchromatic nuclei in which pleomorphism, atypia, or mitotic activity were extremely rare. Immunohistochemical staining revealed that the spindle and stellate cells stained strongly positive for vimentin, CD34, and bcl-2 antibodies. Stains for smooth muscle actin and desmin were negative. The patient's postoperative period was uneventful.

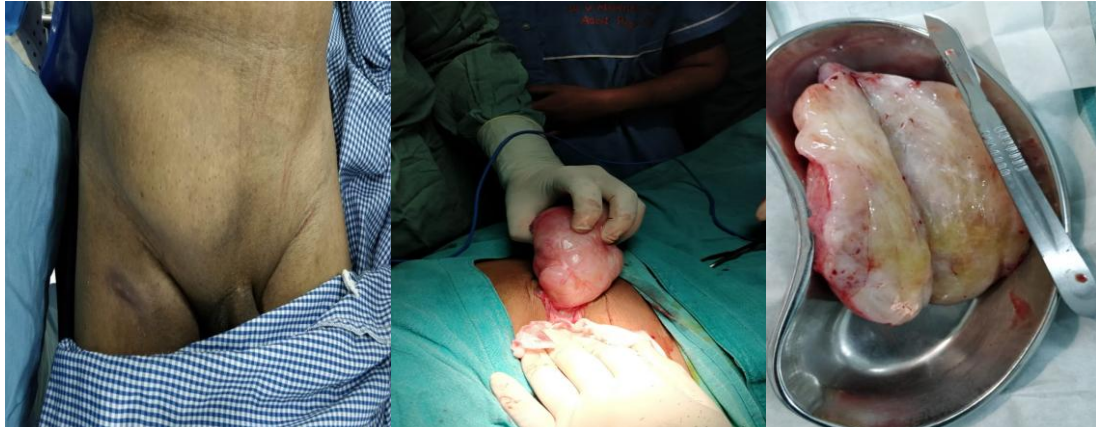


Fig 1 – Pre-operative picture

Fig 2 – Intraoperative picture

Fig3 – GrossCutsection

III. Discussion

Fibromyxoma is an uncommon benign soft tissue tumor that first reported by Suster et al. In 1998 in Twelve patients^[1]. The mass more commonly arises in the subcutaneous tissue of subcutis or muscular fascia of the head and neck, shoulders, chest wall or back, and predominantly affects male adults. Clinical Follow-up in all available cases showed no evidence of recurrence or metastasis after surgical treatment^[2-4].

The most striking histologic feature of Fibromyxoma is an admixture of mature adipose tissue, spindle and stellate cells, and abundant myxoid stroma with prominent collagenization. Immunohistochemically, the vimentin and CD34 immunohistochemical stains accentuated the cell's dendritic nature by revealing slender, complex cytoplasmic

Prolongations which are the main reason of its name^[1].

The curative treatment for Fibromyxoma is completely Local excision. Recurrence or metastasis has never been reported in Fibromyxoma patients after surgical treatment. Fibromyxoma should be differentiated from some benign lesions: spindle cell lipoma (SCL), solitary fibrous tumor (SFT), lipoblastoma, lipoblastomatosis, and nodular fasciitis. Of the other tumor-like lesions, SCL is most likely to be confused with Fibromyxoma. SCL is composed of a mixture of mature adipocytes and uniform spindle cells within a matrix of mucinous material traversed by a varying number of birefringent collagen fibers. It shares many features with Fibromyxoma including age, male predilection, location, gross features. The signally similar clinical and histological feature of the lesions makes it difficult for distinguishing Fibromyxoma from SCL^[5]. Suster et al. Emphasized the dendritic nature of the spindle cells, the plexiform vascular pattern, and the abundance of keloidal collagen as the three essential features in Fibromyxoma, which were not commonly presented in SCL^[1].

But recently studies revealed that some features, such as prominent vascular patterns, and short bipolar cytoplasmic extensions, also had been seen in SCL^[2]. Other benign spindle cell tumor that should be distinguished from Fibromyxoma is solitary fibrous tumor (SFT). SFTs which have a predilection for the thoracic cavity are rare fibrous neoplasms. Histologically, the tumor is characterized by a "patternless pattern" of short spindle cells with scant cytoplasm and bland cytologic appearance separated by strands of rope-like collagen, and a "hemangiopericytoma-like" pattern where the lesional cells are densest around small and medium ectatic and branching vessels^[6]. The "hemangiopericytoma-like" vascular pattern and the lack of an adipose tissue component are two histologically features for distinguishing SFT from Fibromyxoma^[2]. Lipoblastoma and lipoblastomatosis are another two rare benign soft tissue mesenchymal tumours that may be confused with Fibromyxoma. The tumours mainly occur almost exclusively in infants and children under the age of 3 years. The common microscopic features of lipoblastoma and lipoblastomatosis have been described as a mixture composed of immature lipoblasts, mature lipocytes, embedded in an abundant myxoid stroma. Fibromyxoma could be easily distinguished from lipoblastoma and lipoblastomatosis by the patients age and the absence of lipoblasts^[1,7]. Nodular fasciitis is another lesion that should be differentiated from Fibromyxoma. Nodular fasciitis shows proliferating spindle cells embedded in a loosely textured myxoid and inflammatory stroma. Unlike Fibromyxoma, the lesion is relatively well circumscribed but poor encapsulated. Immunohistochemically, the spindle cells are positive for muscle markers except desmin and are S-100 protein and CD-34 negative^[8]

IV. Conclusion

Fibromyxoma is very rare benign tumor. We report the case of fibromyxoma in the right inguinal region which is not mentioned anywhere in literature till now. It is very common especially in inguinal region to confuse soft swellings with irreducible hernia. A diagnosis of Fibromyxoma should be made by their microscopical and immunohistochemical features. Fibromyxoma should be considered in the differential diagnosis of lesions with spindle cell lipoma, solitary fibrous tumor, lipoblastoma, lipoblastomatosis, nodular fasciitis, and myxoid liposarcoma.

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