An Unusual Presentation of Choriocarcinoma

Dr. Sasidhar¹, Dr. K. H. Damayanthi², Dr. K. Lakshmi Narayana³

¹Final Year PG, Santhiram Medical College, Nandyal, Kurnool Dist, Andhra Pradesh, India
²Final Year PG, Santhiram Medical College, Nandyal, Kurnool Dist, Andhra Pradesh, India
³Department of Pediatrics, Santhiram Medical College, Nandyal, Kurnool Dist, Andhra Pradesh, India

1. Introduction

- Choriocarcinoma - highly malignant tumor of trophoblastic cells mostly arises in female genital tract.
- Testis is the common site in males.
- Nongestational Primary choriocarcinoma (PCC) is rare.
- Common site in GIT – stomach.
- The incidence of hydatidiform mole in India is 1 in 500 and the malignant transformation of the disease is 10-15%.
- Metastatic disease occurs in 4% of patients after local management of hydatidiform mole and very rarely after term pregnancies/abortions.
- Only 13 cases of primary colorectal choriocarcinoma have been reported till now – Hiromitsu Maehira et al. 2013 WJG

2. Case Report

- A 25 Yr female admitted with lower abdomen pain – 2 days duration
- H/O abortion 3 months back
- Personal and family history - nil particular.
- General, Systemic and per vaginal examination - nil particular.

3. Investigations

- Routine hematological and biochemical tests – within normal range
- Viral screening - Non reactive.
- Chest X-ray - NAD.
- Ultrasonography of abdomen - mass arising from colon, ? Ovary
- Guided aspiration from mass was done.
- Cytological examination revealed poorly differentiated carcinoma.
- Computed tomographic (CT) scan of the abdomen revealed the mass arising from the ascending colon.
- Patient underwent surgery.

4. Gross Features

- A grey white to grey brown friable irregular mass of size 16x6 cms with areas of hemorrhages and necrosis.
- Histological features:
  10x magnification 40x magnification


5. Immunohistological features
• ImmunoHistochemical Staining was positive for human chorionic growth hormone.

6. Discussion

• Choriocarcinoma most commonly arises in trophoblastic tissue following gestational events such as molar pregnancy, normal or ectopic pregnancy, and abortion.
• Choriocarcinoma of extragenital origin - retroperitoneum, mediastinum, lung, stomach, colon, pancreas, cervix, ureter and intracalvarium (especially in the pineal gland).

Pathogenesis

• Controversial.
• Several hypotheses have been proposed -
• Develops from retained primordial germ cells that migrated abnormally during embryonic development.
• Metastasis from a latent primary lesion in the genitalia.
• Retrodifferentiation of pre-existing colonic carcinoma.
• B-hcg did not decrease to normal levels after surgery, implying that micrometastatic Disease existed.

7. Conclusion

• The prognosis of PCC of the colon is poor.
• In our analysis of literature, median survival time was less than 6 months.
• PCC of colon is usually not identified until tumor has generalized metastasis.
• Death occurs mostly due to hepatocellular failure.

References