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RESEARCH ARTICLE

FIBROTHERCOMA: CLINICAL, RADIOLOGICAL AND IMMUNOHISTOCHEMICAL DATA ABOUT AN OBSERVATION

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Abstract

Fibrothecoma is a benign tumor of the sex cords of the ovary, from the fibrothecal group. These are rare tumors that generally occur in postmenopause with a good prognosis and rare cases of fibrothecoma cancer have been reported. We report a case of fibrothecoma in a patient in genital activity without history in the obstetrics and gynecology department CHU Hassan II Fez Morocco. The interest of this case is its occurrence in a patient with genital activity.

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Introduction:-

Ovarian fibrothecoma is a rare and benign neoplasm of the sex cords and stroma of the ovary, usually located unilaterally in the ovary. It has mixed features of fibroma and thecoma. Patients may be asymptomatic, or present with pelvic abdominal pain and/or distension, and sometimes bleeding after menopause [1].

These sex cord stromal tumors are classified into three categories, namely pure stromal tumors, pure sex cord tumors and mixed sex cord-stromal tumors. Among pure stromal tumors, fibroids and thecomas have both been defined. An additional subtype, fibrothecoma, contains elements of both previously mentioned subtypes to varying degrees. Because this subtype lacks strict identifiers and objective measures for classification, the fibrothecoma subtype has not been officially named by the WHO [2].

The vast majority of documented fibrothecomas have been observed in elderly peri-menopausal patients with two case reports of fibrothecomas occurring in adolescents [3].

Patient and Observation:-

Patient information:

This is Mrs. I. B. Patient, 38 years old, without any notable surgical medical history, barely pained, still in good health. Presenting chronic abdominal pain prompting his consultation associated with an increase in abdominal volume.

In whom the clinical examination finds a conscious patient stable on the HD and afebrile respiratory level, and in whom the gynecological examination finds a right lateral uterine mass slightly tender to palpation.

Clinical results:

Conscious patient, hemodynamically and respiratory stable, afebrile.

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Gynecological examination:**Speculum:**

Macroscopically normal cervix, no external bleeding, no pathological leukorrhea.

Vaginal examination:

Cervix of normal consistency, uterus difficult to assess, slight lateral uterine sensitivity bilaterally.

Abdominal examination:

Abdomen enlarged, palpation of a slightly hard mass, appearance of pain on palpation.

Therapeutic intervention and follow-up: we carried out:

- Pelvic subpubic and endovaginal ultrasound

Normal sized uterus, no myoma or signs of adenomyosis.

Presence of a left ovarian mass with double solid cystic component measuring 17x10 cm not taking color Doppler encoding.

Right ovary without particularity.

Absence of effusion.

- Thorax abdomen pelvis scanner

Large pelvic solid-cystic mass, requiring comparison with pelvic MRI data for better characterization.

- Pelvic MRI

Large pelvic mass, inter utero-rectally appearing to beat the expense of the left ovary, initially suggesting a reworked ovarian fibrothecoma.

We decided to perform a laparotomy with exploration.

- Presence of low abundance ascites aspirated for cytological study

- Presence of a solid polylobed left ovarian mass with smooth wall measuring approximately 20*10 cm without an archic vascularization or exocyst buds.

- Normal sized uterus

- Unremarkable right appendix

Carrying out a left adnexectomy, biopsy of the colonic parietal gutters and the omentum.

Anapath post surgery

- LEFT ANNEXECTOMY

Spindle cell tumor proliferation initially suggestive of a stromal tumor.

An immune histochemical study is necessary to support the diagnosis.

- LEFT GPC

Substantially normal fibrofatty tissue.

- RIGHT GPC

Substantially normal fibrofatty tissue.

- OMENTOMECTOMY

Substantially normal fatty tissue.

IHC complement

Histological and immune histochemical appearance of a fibrothecoma.

Monitoring and results

Clinical and ultrasound follow-up of the patient was carried out at 3 months then at 6 months and 12 months.

Unremarkable clinical examination with absence of functional signs.

Discussion:-

Of variable size, most often 5 to 10 cm in diameter, it is generally a solid, yellowish tumor, rarely presenting foci of necrosis or hemorrhage, bilateral in 3 to 5% of cases [4].

They are responsible for hyperestrogenism in at least 60% of cases [5], exceptionally virilization.

The treatment of the tumor is based on simple oophorectomy, given the low malignant potential, but with systematic biopsies of the endometrium in order to eliminate neoplasia [4].

Thecoma presents after menopause in 65% of patients. It is usually one-sided and varies greatly in size. It has a well-defined capsule and a firm consistency. The cut surface is largely or entirely solid, but cysts may be present. It has a yellow color, an important feature in the differential diagnosis with fibroma (Fig.1). Microscopically, it is composed of bundles of spindle-shaped cells with poorly defined edges, centrally placed nuclei, and a moderate amount of pale grayish-pink cytoplasm.

The intervening tissue may show considerable collagen deposition and focal hyaline plaque formation. The degree of cellularity varies considerably. Some tumors in young women are heavily calcified [6].

With Oil Red O, thecoma cells show abundant intracytoplasmic neutral fat, and silver spots typically show reticulin fibers surrounding individual cells (as opposed to granulosa cell tumor, in which reticulin surrounds clumps of cells). The differential diagnosis is with a luteinized adult granulosa tumor, which can be difficult; FOXL2 mutational analysis may be useful in such cases, with the presence of a mutation supporting the diagnosis of adult granulosa cell tumor [7].

Ovarian immune histochemical analysis reveals that 17 β -hydroxysteroid dehydrogenase (HSD) type 5 and 17 α -hydroxylase (OH) are expressed in theca cells explaining testosterone synthesis. Aromatase is very weakly expressed in a few cells [8].

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Conclusion:-

Fibroma is a rare benign tumor generally encountered after menopause. Our study has just shown that cases of fibroma can be found in patients with genital activity with clinical, radiological and immune histochemical specificities. The latter do not interfere with the treatment which remains the surgical resection of the tumor taking over the ovary.

Conflict of interest

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

Author contributions

All authors read and approved the final version of the manuscript.

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