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ABSTRACT

Giant Solitary Distal Sciatic Myxoid Neurofibroma: A Case Report & Review of Literature

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Background: Neurofibroma is a rare benign tumor of the peripheral nervous system that can evolve anywhere through a nerve from the dorsal ganglion to its terminal branches. Myxoid neurofibroma is usually presented as a solitary non-tender nodule. However, in 50% of the cases, neurofibromas can present as a part of neurofibromatosis.

Case Description: Here, we report a case of a 34-year-old male patient who presented with mild stitching pain on the posterior part of his left thigh associated with a slowly-growing swelling in the exact location. A biopsy was taken and the histopathological report showed evidence of schwannoma with no signs of malignancy. Four years later, the swelling recurred, requiring a resection surgery. During surgery, the tumor was found to be irregular, measured 8 *6 *4.5 cm, and was adherent to adjacent structures; including: femur, muscles, popliteal artery and vein, and the sciatic nerve. The histopathological findings of biopsies obtained during the surgery, have changed the previous diagnosis of schwannoma to low-grade myxoid neurofibroma.

A follow up Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) was done and showed gross total resection of the tumor without residual or postoperative changes.



Discussion: Solitary neurofibromas are often small in size, ranging from 1 to 2 cm in the greatest dimension. Alternatively, tumors that occur as a part of genetic neurofibromatosis tend to be multiple and often grow to large sizes. In our case, the patient didn't have neurofibromatosis as he didn't meet its diagnostic criteria. On the other hand, he had a giant tumor measuring approximately 8*6*4.5 cm that wasn't associated with neurofibromatosis. To our knowledge, this is the first report of giant myxoid solitary neurofibroma of the thigh apart from Neurofibromatosis. Thus, this type of tumor should be included in the differential diagnosis of tumors at this location.

Keywords: Myxoid Neurofibroma, Sciatic Nerve, Solitary, Giant neurofibroma, neurofibromatosis