E-Poster

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Gait Disorder Revealing a Rare Synovial Sarcoma Tumor of the Foot: Case Report

Topic: Biomechanics

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BACKGROUND

Synovial sarcoma is a rare malignant soft tissue tumor of mesenchymal origin that frequently develops in close proximity to joints and tendon sheaths, Synovial sarcoma accounts for approximately 1% of all childhood malignancy, it's typically occurs in patients between 15 and 35 years of age, with a slight male preponderance.

Tis neoplasm can occur in almost any location in the body. In the vast majority of cases, it involves deep soft tissue of the lower extremities, like the knee and ankle.

CASE DESCRIPTION

A 12-year-old boy was referred in 2024 to the physical medicine and functional rehabilitation department for gait disorders. The mother stated that she first noticed the child's symptoms approximately one year earlier, when the child began having pain in his left foot and difficulty walking and decreased activities of daily living. Clinical examination reveals pain on palpation along the sole of the left foot with a Visual Analog Scale of 08/10, when walking, the patient attacks with the lateral border of the left foot with permanent extension of the hallux. Magnetic resonance imaging shows a lesion of the deep left plantar soft tissues without signs of aggressiveness. The mass was excised in total and histopathological analysis and Immunohistochemical tests confirmed the presence of synovial sarcoma. The child was cared for by a multidisciplinary team including physicists, pediatric oncologists and orthopedic surgeons.

DISCUSSION

Synovial sarcomas are rarely encountered in routine clinical practice. A recent study in Syria showed that of 308 cases of soft tissue sarcomas, 10% were synovial sarcomas and 7% were in the foot and ankle.

Most studies have shown a propensity for a young adult age, with a median age at diagnosis of approximately 30 years.

The typical features of synovial sarcoma at presentation include a palpable swelling or soft tissue mass, frequently with localized pain and tenderness. This unusual manifestation is important to recognize, because diagnosis may be significantly delayed otherwise.

Early diagnosis is difficult due to the rarity of the pathology and nonspecific symptoms. Imaging tests such as magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) and biopsy are essential in establishing the diagnosis of synovial sarcoma.

CONCLUSION

Synovial sarcoma of the foot in children is a rare and difficult entity to diagnose, requiring clinical vigilance and a rigorous diagnostic approach. The prognosis of this tumor can be favorable with early diagnosis and appropriate management.

Statement of Disclosures

None

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