E-Poster

EP-635

Hand Myxofibrossarcoma and the Importance of Thumb Opposition

Topic: Miscellaneous

Maria Joao Sousa[1], Mario Vaz[2], Sara Martins[1], Carolina Paiva[1], Jose Eduardo Sousa[1], José Nuno Madureira[1], Pedro Cantista[2]

[1]*ULS COIMBRA: CMRRC-Rovisco Pais, Coimbra, Portugal*
[2]*ULS Santo António, Porto, Portugal*

BACKGROUND

Myxofibrosarcoma (MFS) is a rare malignant soft tissue sarcoma that originates in the body's connective tissue, most commonly affecting elderly individuals. It occurs usually in extremities (75%), most commonly affecting the hand. Given the complexity of the hand's anatomy and function, treatment planning must be carefully managed, including surgical intervention and rehabilitation program. Preserving hand function, particularly thumb opposition, is crucial for grasp, manual dexterity and object manipulation. Losing this ability significantly impacts hand functionality and overall quality of life.

CASE DESCRIPTION

A 68-year-old male patient, right-handed, presented with a painless swelling in the third interdigital space of his right hand with no history of trauma. Over six months, the swelling grew progressively and led to reduced movement range and grip strength. Suspecting malignancy, an excisional biopsy was performed, and histopathological analysis confirmed MFS. The subsequent MRI study demonstrated persistence of disease. The patient underwent amputation of the third, fourth and fifth fingers. Post-surgery, the patient was discharged to rehabilitation care.

During a six-month rehabilitation program, the focus was on wound care, joint mobility of the remaining limb and adaptation to the new condition. At follow-up, the patient showed effective pinch capacity with first and second fingers, with similar strength comparable to the unaffected hand. Having progressively resumed his activities of daily life in an adapted way, referring to autonomy in his self-care, eating and meal preparation, having restarted his gardening hobby. After discussion with the medical team, a passive silicone cosmetic prosthesis was prescribed. One year after the amputation, the patient remained free disease but maintained some residual functional limitations.

DISCUSSION

Myxofibrosarcoma is often asymptomatic, leading to delayed diagnosis and significant functional loss. Timely diagnosis and clear surgical margins are essential for prognosis, but radical excision with amputation can severely affect functional outcomes. A key challenge is preserving thumb function, especially opposition, which is critical for hand grasp. This case illustrates the balance between oncological safety and preserving hand function.

CONCLUSION

This case highlights the critical role of thumb opposition in hand function and underscores the need for a multidisciplinary approach in treating hand MFS to ensure both oncological safety and functional preservation.

Statement of Disclosures

None

Corresponding Author:
Maria Joao Sousa
ULS COIMBRA: CMRRC-Rovisco Pais, Coimbra, Portugal
Email: mjoaosousa16@hotmail.com

Doi: 10.5606/archisprm.2026.EP-635