

Case Report

Fekhaoui MR, et al. J Orthop Ther: JORT-100.

DOI: 10.29011/2575-8241.000100

Juxta Articular Myxoma of the Hand: A Case Report and Review of the Literature

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Citation: Fekhaoui MR, Kabbaj I, El'otmani L, Bassir RA, Boufettal M, et al. (2018) Juxta Articular Myxoma of the Hand: A Case Report and Review of the Literature. J Orthop Ther: JORT-100. DOI: 10.29011/2575-8241.000100

Received Date: 16 May, 2018; **Accepted Date:** 18 May, 2018; **Published Date:** 25 May, 2018

Summary

Juxta articular myxoma is a rare, benign tumor rarely found in the hand. The treatment is a conservative surgical excision with a high rate of local recurrence. We report a case of a juxta articular myxoma of the hand, in a 42-year-old man, managed via complete surgical excision with no recurrence after four months. To our knowledge this is the third reported case in the hand.

Keywords: Hand; Juxta Articular Myxoma; Tumor

Introduction

Juxta Articular Myxoma (JAM) is a rare benign tumor of mesenchymal origin [1]. It's usually found around the knee, occasionally near the shoulder, elbow and rarely near the wrist and the hand [2,3]. We report a case of Juxta articular myxoma of the second interdigital space of the left hand, managed via complete surgical excision.

Case Presentation

A 42-year-old, left-handed man with no medical history, was referred to the department of orthopedic surgery in Rabat with a soft and painless mass of the second interdigital space of the left hand that had been growing over 12 months with no restriction of finger movement (Figure 1).



Figure 1: Clinical aspect of the mass in the second interdigital space of the left hand.

The patient had no history of joint trauma or osteoarthritis. Hand radiography showed a soft-tissue mass shadow without any apparent calcification or osteoarthritis (Figure 2).



Figure 2: Hand radiography showing a soft-tissue mass shadow without any apparent calcification or osteoarthritis.

Magnetic resonance imaging showed a well-defined, encapsulated tumor measuring 52x29 mm, with a myxoid component, T1 hypointense and T2 hyperintense without invasion of surrounding tissues. A biopsy was performed, and the histological diagnosis was a juxta articular myxoma. A surgical excision was made using Bruner incision. We found a soft yellow-tan mass, myxoid, homogeneous and well limited (Figure 3).

Discussion

The term myxoma was first used in 1863 by Virchow to describe tumors that mirrored the structure of the umbilical cord and did not exhibit any other kind of differentiation [4]. After 85 years, Soot defined myxoma as a true neoplasm, a tumor of primitive mesenchyme, composed of stellate cells set in a loose myxoid stroma through which course very delicate reticulin fibers [5]. More than 60 different myxoid lesions have been described

There are 5 entities commonly accepted as mainstream myxomas of soft tissues: Intramuscular myxoma, Juxta-articular myxoma, cutaneous myxoma (superficial angiomyxoma), Aggressive angiomyxoma and myxoma of nerve sheath. JAM is commonly associated with joint trauma and osteoarthritis [2,3,12]. Our patient had no history of joint trauma or osteoarthritis. It has been reported around the shoulder [1,2], elbow [2,16], knee [2,12,13,17] and rarely in the wrist [6,10,18], hand [14,15], hip [2,11], ankle [2] and foot [12]. We report the third case in the hand. The other cases reported in the literature are noted in table 1.



Figure 3: Intraoperative image showing the surgical excision using Bruner incision and the soft yellow-tan tumor.

It was easily separated from the neurovascular structures with respect of the flexor digitorum profundus and flexor digitorum superficialis tendons of the second and third finger. Histopathological analysis of the mass confirmed the juxta articular myxoma. The patient had no postoperative complications and there has been no sign of recurrence after four months.

Shoulder	3			1								4
Elbow	3		1									4
Wrist									1	1		3
Hand											1	2
Hip	1				1							2
Knee	57	1				4	1					63
Ankle	1											1

Foot						1							1
	65	1	1	1	1	5	1	1	1	1	1	1	80

Table 1: The cases of juxta articular myxoma reported in the literature.

Ages have ranged from 5 to 83 years with a male predominance [2,16]. The presentation of JAM is a mass or swelling which may be painful, with a size of lesions ranged from 0.6 to 12 cm and a duration of symptoms highly variable from 1 week to 18 years [2,11]. Magnetic resonance imaging showed a mass that appears T1 hypointense and T2 hyperintense. Heterogeneous enhancement can also be observed after intravenous gadolinium injection [8,7]. Microscopically, JAM is characterized by a richly myxoid matrix, a small number of spindle-shaped to plump fibroblast type cells and a poorly developed hypovascular pattern. Large areas are histologically identical to intramuscular myxoma but varying sizes of cysts in various stages of development are seen in 89%, higher than in intramuscular myxoma [2,11]. The main differential diagnoses are intramuscular myxoma, myxoid malignant fibrous histiocytoma, low-grade fibromyxoid sarcoma and myxoid-liposarcoma [11]. The treatment is a conservative surgical excision who has to be complete because it has been suggested that incomplete resection is responsible for a high recurrence rate (34 % within 18 months) [2,14,18].

Conclusion

Juxta articular myxoma are rare tumors. The localization in the hand remains exceptional. Histological evaluation is the key to the diagnosis and surgical treatment must be complete to avoid recurrence.

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