Underdiagnosed Bone Metastatic Cancer in a Patient with Coccygodynia

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INTRODUCTION

- Coccygodynia
: painful condition localized in coccygeal region
: referred from rectum, sigmoid colon, urogenitals
- Most common cause : traumatic etiology
- Differentiation : neuropathic / visceral
- Woman (5:1), obesity(BMI>27.4 in females)
- We report a case of coccygeal metastatic cancer that occurred in a patient who had been healthy for 10 years after rectal cancer.

CASE

F/87

Chief Complaint

- Pain in coccygeal and vaginal area (NRS 6)
- Onset : 1 year ago
- Agg. Factor : sitting position
- No related with urination or defecation
- No weight loss

Patient History

- Past history
: rectal cancer s/p Low ant. resection
: complete remission from rectal cancer 10 yrs ago
: no follow-up study
- Traumatic history : none
- Uterine prolapse op. (1 year ago)

Coccyx AP & Lat. X-ray (Fig.1)

- No evidence of fracture
- Bone destruction of lower sacrum & coccyx

Sonogram for Caudal Block

- Bone irregularity of bony cortex
- OS referral

<Orthopedic Surgery Progress Note>

Bone Scan (Fig.2)

- Bone meta in sacrum, Rt. Iliac & pubic bone

MRI (Fig.3)

- Irregular bone marrow infiltrated lesion in sacrum, epidural extension with encasement of sacral nerve roots

- Possible primary bone tumor
D/Dx ; plasmacytoma, metastatic tumor

Admission

- Cancer work-up : liver meta & lung meta
- Ix. & Bx. : metastatic adenocarcinoma
- Decomp. laminectomy & sacrectomy (Fig.4)

Fig. 1) coccyx Lat.
- bone destruction in lower sacrum & coccyx

Fig. 2) Bone Scan
- bone metastasis on sacrum, Rt. Iliac & pubic bone

Fig. 3) Pelvic MRI
- irregular bone marrow infiltration in sacrum

Fig. 4) Sacrectomy & wide Excision
- 8x12cm mass lesion involves sacral body

DISCUSSION

▪ Coccygodynia from traumatic origin

- Falls in the sitting position
- Microtrauma to inadequate body positioning
- Child birth
- Pain provoked by prolonged sitting or cycling

▪ Neuropathic origin

- Nervous structures are involved
- Lumbar disc herniation
- Schwannomas, neurinoma, arachnoid cyst

▪ Mixed component

- space-occupying lesion
- Metastases coccygeal level, chondroma
- Cancer : less common cause of coccygodynia
- Physicians should consider cancer as one of the possible cause of the pain.

- When some causes other than trauma are suspected, more detailed diagnostic procedure and referral are needed.

REFERENCES

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