Emergent angi-embolization with elective nephrectomy in ruptured Angiomyolipoma: A case report

Sushant Deole, Vikram Prabha, Nerli RB, Priyeshkumar Patel and Shridhar C Ghagane

DOI: https://doi.org/10.33545/surgery.2020.v4.i1d.330

Abstract

Renal Angiomyolipoma is a common tumour in clinical practice and mostly follows a benign course. Angiomyolipoma is the most common renal neoplasm associated with spontaneous retroperitoneal haemorrhage due to rupture of micro and macro-aneurysms. Urgent trans-catherer angi-embolization of the bleeding vessel is very effective in patients suffering from life threatening hemorrhage secondary to rupture of Angiomyolipoma. Elective surgery is usually indicated to avoid re-bleeding or abscess formation. We report a case of Spontaneous Rupture of Angiomyolipoma of Right kidney in 63 years old female. The female underwent emergent Trans-arterial Embolization followed by elective nephrectomy.

Keywords: Angiomyolipoma, nephrectomy, Wunderlich’s syndrome and Lenk’s triad

Introduction

Renal Angiomyolipoma was originally described in 1900 by Grawitz. It is a benign neoplasm with definite radiological and histological characteristics [1, 2]. It consists of thick-walled poorly organized blood vessels, smooth muscle, and varying levels of mature adipose tissue [3]. Angiomyolipoma mostly occurs in kidneys but can be found in uterus, fallopian tubes, spleen and liver [4, 5]. Renal AML are usually sporadic and are found in association with Tuberous Sclerosis and lymphangioleiomyomatosis like genetic diseases [6]. Renal AML has male to female ratio of 1:2 and has hormonal component to tumor growth [8, 7]. Retroperitoneal hemorrhage and compression of the tumor on kidney and other organs are the major complications of Renal AML [5]. Most patients present in 5th or 6th decade of life. Most of the patients are asymptomatic and diagnosed incidentally [5]. Lenk’s triad is classical presentation of Renal AML – Palpable tender mass, flank pain and gross hematuria [8]. Ten percent of cases present with hypovolemic shock due to retro-peritoneal hemorrhage known as Wunderlich’s syndrome [8, 9]. Presence of fat confirmed on CT scanning by >20 Hounsfield units or less in a renal lesion is diagnostic of AML [10]. Most patients are asymptomatic and smaller lesions are managed conservatively with regular Ultrasonography follow up. Lesions >8cm are usually symptomatic and are prone for spontaneous or traumatic rupture. We present a case of Spontaneous Rupture of Angiomyolipoma of Right kidney in 63 years old female who underwent emergent Trans-arterial Embolization followed by elective nephrectomy

Case Report

A 63-year-old female was brought to the urological services of the hospital with complaints of sudden onset severe right flank pain with distension of abdomen. She had severe abdominal tenderness with guarding. She had tachycardia, BP was normal. A lump approximately 10*10 cm was palpable in right lumbar, right hypochondriac region. She was anemic (Hb – 5.6 gm%). Serum creatinine was 0.82 mg%. Computed tomography (CT) showed Right kidney replaced by heterogeneously enhancing ill defined mixed density area of fat and blood with perinephric edema and ill-defined hypo and hyper dense collections. The extension of collection was into peri-nephric region, retro peritoneum, right para-colic gutter, supra-renal and hepatorenal pouch. (Figure 1 a and b) A diagnosis of Ruptured Angiomyolipoma of Right Kidney with retroperitoneal hematoma and hemoperitoneum was made. She underwent emergent Trans-arterial Embolization in view with 3 Packed Cell Transfusions (Figure 2 a and b).
Post TAE and blood transfusions, her Hb improved to 10.4 gm%. Pain did not subside. She was taken for Elective Nephrectomy 3 days post TAE. The entire kidney was replaced by tumor with extensive organized hematoma (Figure 3 a & b). The female had an uneventful post-operative period and was discharged 7 days post-operatively. The histopathology examination revealed Angiomyolipoma.

Discussion
The management of AML is multimodal and the type of treatment is individualized. Most patients with tumor < 4cm are usually asymptomatic and are managed conservatively. Radio-frequency ablation can be done for small tumors in patients with solitary kidney, risk of renal dysfunction following partial nephrectomy or in elderly patients. Tumors >8 cm are symptomatic and at risk for spontaneous / traumatic rupture. Renal artery embolization is the first line of management for bleeding AML. This is nowadays being used as preventive treatment for patients with risk of bleeding [11]. Advantages of embolization over surgery include low complication rate, less trauma [12], acceptable short term outcome [13, 14] and preservation of renal function [15]. Ewalt et al found that transcatheter embolization of large AML is minimally invasive, prevents hemorrhage and preserves renal function [16]. Wang et al, respectively, reviewed 46 patients who underwent super-selective renal artery embolization (SRAE) for renal hemorrhage, and indicated that SRAE is an effective and minimally invasive method for the control of renal hemorrhage [17]. However, embolization also has its limitations. Tumor shrinkage which occurs in most patients after embolization is not a reliable exclusion criterion for recurrent hemorrhage [18, 19]. Boorjian et al. pointed out that embolization had higher risk of relapse and recurrent bleeding compared with partial nephrectomy [20]. Kara et al. recommended Partial nephrectomy in for patients with high risk of rupture [21]. The complication rate of embolization is 10% and the most common complication is abscess formation (5%). Post embolization re-bleeding, need for re-embolization or need for surgical intervention are noted after embolization. Post-embolization need for surgical intervention is usually due to persistent of symptoms and recurrent bleeding [22]. Adhesions usually form within 72 hours after injury and are more extensive from 10 days to 2 weeks [23]. So surgery within 1 week after embolization seems to be a better option. The advantages of early surgery include less surgical and anaesthetic risk. Patients are hemodynamically stable after embolization, less tissue adhesion, no need for renal pedicle control and decreased bleeding during procedure. The female patient underwent emergency renal artery embolization with Blood transfusions. After hemodynamic stability, the patient underwent elective total nephrectomy.

Fig 1a & b: Computed tomography (CT) showing a Right kidney replaced by heterogeneously enhancing ill defined mixed density area of fat and blood with perinephric oedema and ill-defined hypo and hyperdense collections. The extension of collection was into peri-nephric region, retroperitoneum, right para-colic gutter, supra-renal and hepato-renal pouch.

Fig 2a: Angiography of right renal artery showing contrast extravasation of dye due to rupture of AML.

Fig 2b: Post embolisation Angiography showing no extravasation of dye.
angiomyolipoma: a retrospective analysis of 61,389 in- and out-patients. Abdom. Imaging. 2014; 39:1009-1013.
8. Guttiella A, Crestani A, Cattaneo F, Zattoni F, Valotto C, Iafrite M et al. Wunderlich’s syndrome: three cases of acute spontaneous renal bleeding conservatively treated. Arch. Ital. Urol. Androl. 2013; 85:210-213.
9. Chen YC, Lin YC. Wunderlich syndrome. QJM. 2013; 106:187-88.
10. Bora A, Soni A, Sainani N, Patkar D. Emergency embolization of a bleeding renal angiomyolipoma using polyvinyl alcohol particles. Diagn. Interv. Radiol. 2007; 13:213-216.
11. Muller A, Rouviere O. Renal artery embolization indications, technical approaches and outcomes. Nat Rev Nephrol. 2015; 11:288-301.
12. Zorn KC, Starks CL, Gofrit ON et al. Embolization of renal-artery pseudoaneurysm after laparoscopic partial nephrectomy for angiomyolipoma: case report and literature review. J Endourol. 2007; 21:763-8.
13. Seyam RMBN, Kattan SA, Mukhtar AA et al. Changing trends in presentation, diagnosis and management of renal angiomyolipoma: comparison of sporadic and tuberous sclerosis complex-associated forms. Urology. 2008; 72:1077-82.
14. Haber GP, Lemaire L, Hancart C et al. Selective arterial embolization of renal angiomyolipoma for the prophylaxis and the treatment of hemorrhage: retrospective study of 24 cases. Eur Urol Suppl. 2005; 4:151-151.
15. Corso R, Carrafiello G, Rampoldi A et al. Pseudoaneurysm after spontaneous rupture of renal angiomyolipoma in tuberous sclerosis: successful treatment with percutaneous thrombin injection. Cardiovasc Intervent Radiol. 2005; 28:262-4.
16. Ewalt DH, Diamond N, Rees C et al. Long-term outcome of transcatheter embolization of renal angiomyolipomas due to tuberous sclerosis complex. J Urol 2005; 174:1764-6.
17. Wang C, Mao Q, Tan F et al. Superselective renal artery embolization in the treatment of renal hemorrhage. Ir J Med Sci. 2014; 183:59-63.
18. Leong S, Keeling AN, McGrath FP et al. Transcatheter embolisation of renal angiomyolipoma. Ir J Med Sci. 2010; 179:211-6.
19. Rimon U, Dudevani M, Garniek A et al. Ethanol and polyvinyl alcohol mixture for transcatheter embolization of renal angiomyolipoma. AJR Am J Roentgenol. 2006; 187:762-8.
20. Boorjian SAFI, Inman B, Lohse CM et al. The role of partial nephrectomy for the management of sporadic renal angiomyolipoma. Urology. 2007; 70:1064-8.
21. Kara O, Akca O, Zargar H et al. Robotic partial nephrectomy in the treatment of renal angiomyolipoma. J Endourol. 2016; 30:275-9.
22. Nelson CP, Martin GS. Contemporary diagnosis and management of renal angiomyolipoma. J Urol. 2002; 168:1315-25.
23. Liakakos T, Thomakos N, Fine PM, Dervenis C, Young RL. Peritoneal adhesion: etiology, pathophysiology and clinical significance. Dig Surg. 2002; 18:260-73.

Conflict of Interest: The authors declare as None.

References
1. Schieda N, Kielar AZ, Al Dandan O, McInnes MD, Flood TA. Ten uncommon and unusual variants of renal angiomyolipoma (AML): radiologic–pathologic correlation. Clin. Radiol. 2015; 70:206-220.
2. Skolarus TA, Serrano MF, Berger DA, Bullock TL, Yan Y, Humphrey PA et al. The distribution of histological subtypes of renal tumors by decade of life using the 2004 WHO classification. J Urol. 2008; 179:439-43.
3. Kulkarni B, Desai SB, Dave B, Tongoonkar HB, Kulkarni JN, Chinoy RF. Renal angiomyolipomas–a study of 18 cases. Indian J. Pathol. Microbiol. 2005; 48:459-463.
4. Maziak DE, Kesten S, Rappaport DC, Maurer J. Extrathoracic angiomyolipomas in lymphangioleiomyomatosis. Eur. Respir. J. 1996; 9:402-405.
5. Eble JN. Angiomyolipoma of kidney. Semin. Diagn. Pathol. 1998; 15:21-40.
6. Peng ZF, Yang L, Wang TT, Han P, Liu ZH, Wei Q. Efficacy and safety of sirolimus for renal angiomyolipoma in patients with tuberous sclerosis complex or sporadic lymphangioleiomyomatosis: a systematic review. J. Urol. 2014; 192:1424-1430.
7. Fittschen A, Wendlik I, Oeztuerk S, Kratzer W, Akinli AS, Haenle MM et al. Prevalence of sporadic renal

Fig 3a: Intra-operative photograph showing sub-capsular organized hematoma and tumor.

Fig 3b: Histomicrograph (H & E) showing adipose tissue, blood vessels and muscle fibres normal kidney tissue confirming diagnosis of Angiomyolipoma.

~ 187 ~