A case report of giant chondroma arising at pharynx nasalis

Jun Feng1, Jiumei Yang1, Li Li2, Tao Peng1 and Yuanzhuo Zhuang1

1Department of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery, Nanchong Central Hospital, Second Clinical Medical College of North Sichuan Medical College, Nanchong 637000, China
2Department of Pathology, Affiliated Hospital of North Sichuan Medical College, Nanchong 637000, China

Abstract

Chondromas are common slow-growing benign tumors arising at many anatomical sites, but the tumors in situ of pharynx nasalis are very rare without exact etiology. The clinical manifestation about the disease mainly includes the tumorous pressure and autochthonous bleeding. A twelve-year-old girl was seen for the complaint of progressive nasal obstruction and snoring over one year, with signs of hearing degression in the right ear for one month. We carried out this operation by sinus nasalis endoscope and electrodrill transnasal approach. The final diagnosis of chondromas is confirmed by pathology. For five years’s follow-up, the patient was asymptomatic without evidence of recurrence.

Introduction

Chondromas are benign tumors that may be found in many parts of body, but it is rare that it develops at the region of nasal parts, especially at pharynx nasalis. Furthermore, the neoplasm at pharynx nasalis is hard to excise completely so that recurrence may occur. Now here we report a case of a giant chondroma in the particular location.

Case report

A twelve-year-old girl was seen for the complaint of progressive nasal obstruction and snoring over one year, with signs of hearing depression in the right ear for one month. The electron pharyngorhinoscopy showed there was a smooth-surfaced hard neoplasm on the posterior wall of nasopharynx, which measured 4.0×5.0 cm. Her right ostium pharyngeum tubae auditoriae couldn’t be seen well because of the tumorous pressure and ancipitous choana nariums were almost obstructed. The CT (Figures 1A-1C) presented that there was an abnormal soft tissue in the right pharynx nasalis and pars oralis pharynges, measuring 3.0 ×3.5 ×5.0 cm, with clear bouncy and irregularly granular calcifications. There was no abnormality seen in all the other examinations.

Correspondence to: Li Li, Department of Pathology, Affiliated Hospital of North Sichuan Medical College, Nanchong 637000, China, Tel: 15892772916; E-mail: 15984876269@163.com

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Figure 1A. CT at anteroposterior axes position

Figure 1B. CT at coronal position

Figure 1C. CT at axial position

It shows the location and imaging characteristic of the tumor from different angles. No bony destruction can be seen (Figures 1A-1C).
Under general anaesthesia in controlling low blood pressure, the operation was performed transnasal approach with sinus nasalis endoscope and electrodrill which made in Stryker and Medtronic corporation respectively. We resected the Chondroma as following step: (1) Shrinking mysteric and nasopharyngeal mucose and nasal concha with cotton slice soaked normal saline (NS) containing adrenhrin 4 mg, summation 3 times about every 5 minutes one time, (2) under sinus nasalis endoscope, sectioning mucose covering on surface of Chondroma about 1.5 cm, exposing and grinding Chondroma and (3) using absorbable hemostatic gauze to fill into wound surface to hematieshesis. We found the neoplasm composed of three independent smooth pieces of milky hard tumor tissues. The biggest piece measured up to 5 × 4 × 3 cm and neither obvious adherence nor destruction of bone occurred. Pathological examination revealed well-differentiated hyaline cartilage cells without pathologic caryocinesia arranged in an irregularly lobular pattern. The basilaris substantia with some scutellate calcareous infarcts was sparse and took on cystose somewhere. Pathological conclusion was a chondroma. The patient was nasal obstruction and snoring free, whose acoustic sensibility was elevated by fifteen decibels after one week. Her hearing was normal one month later. For five years follow-up, the patient was asymptomatic without evidence of recurrence.

Discussion

The exact etiology of chondromas is unknown. Most authors agree that it may originate from heterotopic embryonal cartilaginous cell or the remain of skull cartilage [1]. Kilby et al. [2] in 1977 divided the regions of chondromas in nasal cavity and accessory nasal cavity into six districts (1) ethmoidal sinus and nasal cavity except median region of chondromas in nasal cavity and accessory nasal cavity et al. Kilby [2] in 1977 divided districts. CT far outweighs MRI in the diagnosis of basalis cartilaginous tumor, respecting that CT is better than MRI in the discrimination for the typical ossification and calcification. Therefore CT can play great importance in preliminary confirming the qualification of the neoplasm. But in revealing the neoplasm's location and adjacency to proximal tissues, MRI is superior to CT. Murthy et al. [5] consider that complete surgical removal is the best treatment of choice. Recurring possibility will not be diminished by surgery combining radiotherapy together or merely radiotherapy and malignant degeneration into chondrosarcoma may occur after partial resection. So process tissues together with proximal peristoeum or perichondrium should be cut, whose cutting edge is located on the spot at a distance of 0.5 to 1.0 cm from the neoplasm boundary. Notwithstanding a benign neoplasm, it is considerably destructive, as a result of incomplete excision and rapid growth of the neoplasm, which will result in encroaching on proximal tissues and extending to erode other places such as fossa orbitalis, intracalvarium. Accordingly, it is clinically treated as a kind of malignant or semi-malignant tumor and long-term follow-up is also needed. In this case, we accomplished this operation thoroughly using sinus nasalis endoscope and electrodrill in a small incisal opening, and followed-up five years without recurrence.

Chondromas are benign tumors that rarely arise at pharynx nasalis. Considering their propensity to malignant transformation into chondrosarcoma after partial resection of tumor, every attempt should be made to total removal of the tumor, which makes the long-term prognosis good. Cure is usual with marginal and intralesional excision under a proper approach. It is obvious that there are a lot of preponderance such as a wide campus visuals, small incial opening, excision thoroughly, little hemorrhage, no recurrence to ues sinus nasalis endoscope and electrodrill transnasal approach to finish this operation.

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It is certain that the IRB of Nanchong Central Hospital, Second Clinical Medical College of North Sichuan Medical College has agreed this Case Report of Giant Chondroma Arising at Pharynx nasalis for publication.

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