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Mandibular involvement of solitary plasmocytoma: A case report

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ABSTRACT

Plasma cell neoplasms (multiple myeloma, solitary plasmocytoma of bone and extra medullar plasmocytoma) are characterized by a monoclonal neoplastic proliferation of plasma cells. Solitary plasmocytoma of bone (SPB) is a localized form of them. SPB is most frequently seen in vertebrae and secondarily in long bones. Its presence in jaws is extremely rare and when it is seen, angulus and ramus mandible are most common sites of occurrence. Prognosis of SPB is worse than extra medullar plasmacytoma (EMP) and approximately 50% of SPB will transform to multiple myelom. A 76year old woman consulted to our clinic with a chief complaint of slowly developed swelling in her mandible. She had an operation from caput femur because of plasmocytoma two months before. Panoramic radiography revealed a radiolucent lesion in the mandibular anterior region, 60×35 mm in dimension. Aspiration biopsy was performed and histopathological examination was reported as plasmocytoma. She was referred to the oncology department for treatment but died before the treatment finished.

Key words: Plasma cell neoplasm, bone, solitary plasmocytoma, mandible.

INTRODUCTION

Plasma cell neoplasms (multiple myeloma, solitary plasmocytoma of bone and extramedullar plasmocytoma) are lymphoid neoplastic proliferations of B cells (1-6).

Multiple myeloma (MM) is the disseminated type of this disorder. Localized forms of plasma cell neoplasms are solitary plasmocytoma of bone (SPB) and extramedullar plasmocytoma (EMP). EMP develops in soft tissues and is more frequently seen than SPB in head and neck regions. SPB is observed as centrally localized in bones (1-3,5).

The prognosis of SPB is poorer than EMP and approximately 50% of SPB will transform to MM (1,3-5,7,8).

SPB is diagnosed with the absence of clonal plasma cells on a random marrow sample, single osteolytic lesion (no additional lesions on bone survey), M-protein in serum and urine and evidence of systemic myeloma (bone pain, anemia, hypercalcemia, thrombocytopenia, neutropenia and renal failure) (1-5,8,9).

In this case report, we discuss a solitary plasmocytoma which is rarely seen in jaws.

CASE REPORT

A 76-year-old woman consulted our clinic with the primary complaint of slowly developed swelling in her mandible. From her medical history, she had had an operation on the right iliac and right proximal of femoris because of plasmocytoma. Right iliac side had been curetted, proximal of right caput femoris had been excised and a prosthetic restoration had been applied on caput femoris. She was also given radiotherapy course of 25 sessions (dosage was 5000 cGy). During the first radiographic examination, the bone survey showed no evidence of additional lesions, bone marrow puncture and serum electrophoresis were normal. The mandibular swelling had first been noted approximately 6 months after the first operation and initially her total

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denture was suspected as the cause. Redness and pain also appeared along with the swelling.

She was taking glikazid group antidiabteic with a daily dose of 1X1 80 mg (Betanorm©) for type II diabetes mellitus. Except diabetes mellitus, her medical condition was uneventful. Haematological laboratory findings revealed WBC as 3.4×10^3 /uL, RBC 4.10×10^5 /uL, HGB 12.1 g/dL, lymphocytes as 0.5×10^3 /uL, monocytes as 0.2×10^3 /uL and sedimentation levels at 52 mm/h.

Clinical examination revealed an indurate and non-tender swelling occluding the region between the lower canines. The lesion was approximately 55 mm in dimension and was covered with intact mucosa and also showed enlargement in the labio-lingual direction. Tongue, lips, buccal and alveolar mucosa were normal in appearance.

Panoramic radiography revealed a multilocular radiolucent lesion in the mandibular anterior region, 60×35 mm in dimension which was ill-defined and caused deformation in cortical bone (Figure 1).

Expansion of bone in the bucco-lingual direction, cortical bone destruction and periosteal reaction were also realized from the occlusal radiogram (Figure 2). In addition, in the second attendance, there were no other bony changes in her skull radiograms.

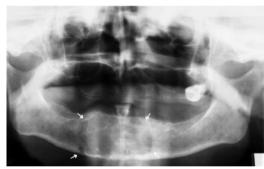


Fig. 1. Panoramic radiograph revealing ill-defined multilocular lesion with cortical destruction.



Fig. 2. Occlusal radiograph showing buccal expansion with adjacent spiculation.

Aspiration cytology was hyper cellular. There were numerous plasma cells having abundant cytoplasm and eccentrically located nuclei. Plasma cells showed slight nucleomegali and irregular chromatin distribution. Some of them were binucleated.

Additionally there were some lypmhocytes and osteoclastic giant cells. According to these findings, the histopathological diagnosis was plasmocytoma (Figure 3).

After the diagnosis of plasmocytoma, the patient was referred to the oncology department for treatment but unfortunately she died before the treatment finished.

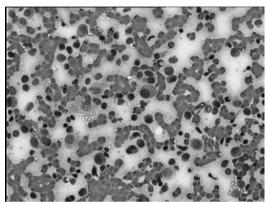


Fig. 3. Photomicrograph showing the osteoclastic giant cells and lymphocytes and atypical plasma cells (HEX100).

DISCUSSION

SPB is tumor of plasma cells, which manifests itself as a single osteolytic lesion without plasmocytosis of bone marrow and constitutes approximately 3% of all plasma containing tumors. SPB is more prevalent in males than females, the ratio being 2:1 (1-8).

The most common sites of SPB are long bones and vertebrae. It rarely involves jaws and when it is seen, only 4.4% of SPB occur in the mandible, most commonly in the bone marrow-rich areas of the body, angulus and ramus mandible (1-6). As the patient was female and the midline of the mandible as the occurrence site, this was a very rare case. Most common clinical symptoms of SPB are pain in the jaws and teeth, paraesthesia, anesthesia, mobility and migration of the teeth, haemorrhage, swelling in hard and soft tissues and pathological fractures (1-4,6,7). Our case was in harmony with literature since the main complaint was swelling and the lesion's reddish colour.

In our case, the lesion was located in the anterior of the mandible between canines. A study by Pisano et al. (2), containing 13 cases of SPB, showed that nine lesions were located posterior to the premolars and only one case was anterior but distal to the canine. A study carried out by Marick et al. (3) which consisted of 21 cases of SPB showed that in 15 cases, the lesion affected the maxilla more than the mandible and despite the reported female predominance in the literature, males were predominant. The male/female

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ratio was 2:1. In our case, swelling was the major symptom and pain was present but paraesthesia was not reported. Radiographically, SPB is seen as a well defined, unilocular or multilocular destructive lesion with lack of any sign of bone reaction (1,3). But in our case, there were signs of periosteal reaction which is a rare radiographic sign. This can cause cortical destruction and can spread widely to the surrounding tissues.

There is a possibility of transformation of SPB and EMP to MM. This possibility is higher in SPB than EMP. Clinical investigations conclude that 35–85% of SPB cases are transformed to MM in a period of couple of months to a few years. But it is not possible to predict which case may transform, so after treatment, SPB cases must be followed up with routine laboratory monitoring of immunoglobulins and monoclonal proteins in serum and Bence-Jones proteins in urine (1-3). In our case, when the patient first consulted our clinic for the jaw lesion, bone marrow examination results were normal.

Plasma cell neoplasms appear as sheets of plasma cells and are indistinguishable histologically. Clinical signs are also the same. Distinguishing one from the other is critical to treatment and survival. According to the description of dysplastic behaviour of plasmocytoma by Sukpaninchnant et al. (10), minimal dysplasia is defined as most of the plasma cells being mature and plasmoblasts (cells with nucleoli) accounting for less than 10% of cells, whereas marked dysplasia is defined as plasmoblasts consisting of greater than 50% of tumour cells. Our case was judged as minimal dysplastic as the histopathological results indicated mature plasma cells.

The course of SPB is relatively benign. Nevertheless, prognosis of SPB is poorer than EMP; 58% of cases progress to MM and survival at 10 years is 16% in SPB. The average outliving is over 90 months (6,9). Unfortunately, our patient died during the course of treatment.

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