

Isolated Psoas Schwannoma: A Rare Retroperitoneal Tumor

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Abstract

Retroperitoneal neurogenic tumors are very rare. Isolated or primary psoas schwannoma is one of the rarest tumors of retroperitoneum. The images of such a case are presented in this report.

Keywords: Imaging, psoas muscle, schwannoma

INTRODUCTION

Schwannomas are the benign tumors arising from the Schwann cells of the peripheral nerves. Retroperitoneum is one the rarest locations for schwannomas, except in cases of von Recklinghausen's disease.

CASE REPORT

A 25-year-old male presented with the chief complaints of colicky left flank pain and burning micturition for 2 weeks. The ultrasonography revealed moderate left-sided ureterohydronephrosis (Grade-II) with 4 cm × 4.3 cm hypoechoic lesion in the left psoas region [Figure 1].

The magnetic resonance (MR) imaging revealed Grade-II left hydronephrosis with dilated upper and an altered signal intensity lesion lying beneath the psoas fascia compressing the ureter. The lesion was well defined, hyperintense on T2 and short inversion time inversion recovery sequences showing homogeneous intense enhancement. The MR features were suggestive of benign neurogenic tumor [Figure 2]. The histopathological examination from biopsy specimen revealed the features of schwannoma.

The patient underwent resection of the lesion. The hydronephrosis resolved over next 3 weeks. The patient is under follow-up and presently free of symptoms.

DISCUSSION

Psoas schwannoma is one the most unusual extrinsic causes of hydronephrosis. The present case displays a unique

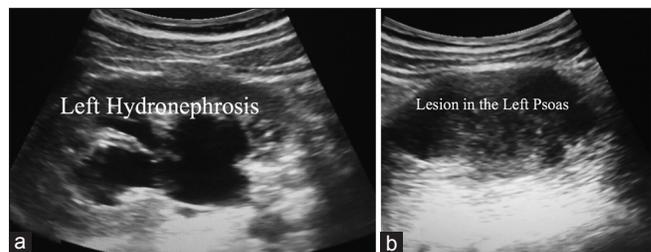


Figure 1: (a) Sonographic image of the left kidney showing the Grade-II hydronephrosis. (b) Sonographic image showing a hypoechoic lesion in the left psoas muscle

presentation of psoas schwannoma as a cause of urinary obstruction and flank pain.^[1] The retroperitoneum comprises only 0.5%–5% of cases of schwannomas in patients who do not have von Recklinghausen's disease. These tumors may present as recurrent chronic abdominal pain and colicky pain in cases of urinary obstruction and may remain asymptomatic in cases where the mass effect on adjacent structures is minimal. Clinically and sonographically, it may be confused with psoas abscess, but MR imaging and histopathology form the gold standard for accurate diagnosis. The complete excision with negative margins results in full recovery as in the present case.^[2]

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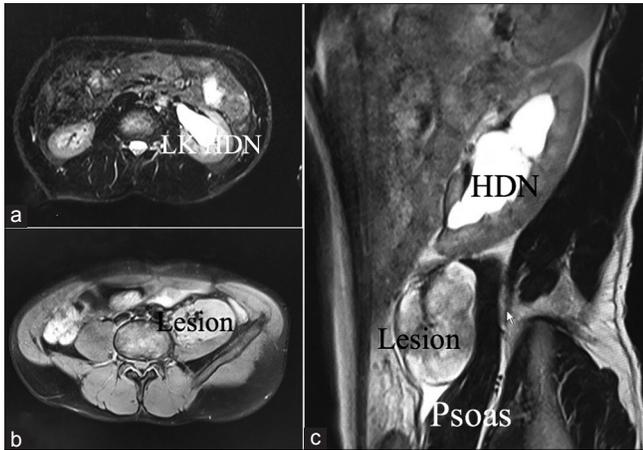


Figure 2: Magnetic resonance images showing the Grade-II hydronephrosis of left kidney showing (a) hyperenhancing lesion in the left psoas muscle (b) and lesion in the subfascial region of the left psoas muscle (c)

CONCLUSION

Psoas muscle schwannoma is a rare retroperitoneal tumor and MR imaging plays a pivotal role in the

diagnosis and exact delineation of the tumor extent and location.

Declaration of patient consent

The authors certify that they have obtained all appropriate patient consent forms. In the form the patient(s) has/have given his/her/their consent for his/her/their images and other clinical information to be reported in the journal. The patients understand that their names and initials will not be published and due efforts will be made to conceal their identity, but anonymity cannot be guaranteed.

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Conflicts of interest

There are no conflicts of interest.

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