

HAEMANGIOENDOTHELIOMA OF CERVIX UTERI

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Angiomatous lesions although widely distributed throughout the human body are extremely rare in the uterus (Novak, 1974). This is surprising in view of the rich vascularity of the organ. Clinically the tumor is important because when ulcerated it may simulate the picture of a carcinoma specially in a young patient who is pregnant as appeared in the case presented here.

CASE REPORT

A 31 years old 5th gravida full term pregnant female was admitted to the hospital. On vaginal examination a non-friable pedunculated growth was observed on the anterior lip of the cervix. The growth did not bleed on touch. On enquiry no history of postcoital or intermenstrual bleeding was obtained. Clinically a carcinoma was suspected and a biopsy was taken. On receiving the report the growth was excluded. The patient was allowed to deliver normally and no postpartum complication like haemorrhage or bleeding from the growth occurred.

Pathology:

Grossly (1206/75) the enucleated material comprised of few friable pieces 1.5 x 1 x 1 cm. each and whole of this tissue was processed.

Microscopic examination revealed the mass to

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be ulcerated and partly covered by stratified squamous epithelium (Fig. 1) subepithelial tissue comprised of large and small isolated or communicating vascular channels supported by thin vascular stroma. The channels were filled with blood and lined by a single layer of plump cells. These cells had vesicular nuclei and prominent nucleoli. At places the cells were arranged as solid group. Mitosis was not a prominent feature (Fig. 2).

Discussion

Vascular lesions of the uterus are rare and those described are either corporeal or cervical. The cervical ones are less frequent of the two and constitute only a small fraction of the total number of described in the medical literature and the location usually is on the posterior wall (Novak, 1974).

In the present case the growth was seen on the anterior lip of the cervix but there was no obstruction to the passage of urine and the patient delivered normally without developing any postpartum complications.

Pedowitz *et al* (1955) surveyed clinical records of 18 years and found only 10 cases resembling the one presented here. Lymphangiomas are encountered relatively more frequently than haemangiomas. This has been corroborated by others also (Zeigerman, 1961). Only 9 cases of haemangioma of the uterine cervix had been described in the medical literature upto 1949; Pedowitz *et al* (1955) added

another 17 cases. The tumors reported so far include both benign and malignant varieties though the latter are less frequent constituting only 20%-25% of the total. The malignant varieties also are of a relatively low malignancy (Stout, 1949; Pedowitz *et al*, 1955; Zeigerman, 1961).

Summary

A case of haemangioendothelioma occurring on the anterior lip of cervix uteri of a 31 years old pregnant female is reported. The tumor though rare is important clinically as it may mimic

carcinoma of cervix on clinical examination, more so in a pregnant female.

References

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See Figs. on Art Paper II