

PRIMARY CARCINOMA OF URETHRA WITH PREGNANCY

(A Case Report)

by

(Miss) SUJATA MURTY,* M.B.,B.S. (Hons.), M.S. (Pat.)

and

(Mrs.) SHANTI ROY,* M.B.,B.S. (Hons.), D.G.O., M.S., M.A.M.S.

Introduction

Primary carcinoma of urethra is rare and most gynaecologists see only 5 to 6 cases in a life time (Jeffcoate, 1978). Pregnancy to be associated with cancer of the urethra is rarer still, as the average age incidence of carcinoma urethra is 49.7-64 years. The first case was reported by Boivin and Duges in 1883 and the total number of cases reported by now is about 1000 in the world literature (Javadpour, 1979).

CASE REPORT

Smt. C.D., 38 years, para 3 +0 was admitted to Patna Medical College Hospital on 3-4-80 with the complaint of a painful swelling near the urinary passage of 6 months duration. Her L.M.P. was on 3-2-80. On examination apart from 8 weeks pregnancy there was a non-pedunculated mass of the size of 2.5 cm. x 2.5 cm. arising from the anterior urethral wall near the external meatus. It was irregular, soft and friable having tendency to bleed on touch. Her general condition was good, wt. 49 kg., pulse 72/mt. B.P. 130/82 mm. Hg. and the haemogram and urinalysis were within the normal limits. On 4-4-80 she was examined under anaesthesia and the entire tumour with part of

urethral wall was removed. The histopathological examination of the tumour revealed squamous cell carcinoma (Figure 1). Pregnancy was terminated by suction evacuation as desired by the patient. She was discharged after two weeks with advice for radiotherapy, but unfortunately has not turned up for follow-up.

TABLE I
Staging system of female urethral carcinoma

Stage O	— Confined to mucosa only (in situ)
Stage A	— Into but not beyond Lamina propria
Stage B	— Muscular (infiltrating into urethral muscle)
Stage C	— Periurethral, infiltrating other adjacent structures such as bladder, vagina, labia, clitoris
Stage D	— Metastasis
D1	— Regional metastasis including inguinal and/or pelvic lymph nodes (with any primary tumour)
D2	— Distant metastasis (with any primary tumour)

Discussion

Primary carcinoma of the female urethra accounts for less than 0.02 per cent of all cancers occurring in women. In a collective review by Javadpour (1979), 46 per cent of urethral carcinomas

*Registrar.

**Associate Professor.

Dept. of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Patna Medical College and Hospital, Patna.

Accepted for publication on 8-4-81.

were of the anterior urethra and 54 per cent of the entire urethra.

The early lesions often resemble a caruncle in appearance indicating the importance of examining microscopically all urethral caruncles, polyps and hypertrophic mucosa.

Summary

A case of carcinoma of the urethra with

pregnancy has been reported with a brief review of literature regarding etiology, diagnosis and management of the disease.

References

1. Javadpour, N.: Principles and Management of Urologic Cancer, U.S.A., p. 458, 1979.
2. Jeffcoate, T. N. A.: Principles of Gynaecology, 4th ed. 1975.

See Fig. on Art Paper III