

POST MENOPAUSAL BLEEDING DUE TO THECA CELL TUMOUR OF OVARY

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Introduction

The aim of this report is to draw attention to this comparatively rare type of ovarian tumour which causes no significant enlargement of the ovary and betray its presence only by evidence of abnormal oestrogenic activity.

Case Report

D. Kaur, aged 55 years, was admitted for bleeding after menopause of 10 years. She complained of excessive vaginal discharge and bleeding for last 5-4 months. The report showed the endometrium in proliferative phase with a few glands cystically dilated. Even though the local examination was not definitive, it was

decided to do a laparotomy. Abdominal Pan-hysterectomy was done.

Fig. 1 shows the specimen. The uterus was normal in size. The cavity contained a fleshy polyp 2.5 cms long. The right ovary was replaced by a tumour measuring 4 x 4 x 3 cms. It was well circumscribed, firm to hard in consistency with smooth external surface. The cut surface was greyish white to yellowish with whole appearance. Both the fallopian tubes and the left ovary were normal.

Microscopically the right ovary showed a fibrothecoma comprised of oval to spindle shaped cells and pale nuclei alternating with bands of more spindle cells with dark and thinner nuclei (Figs. 2 and 3). There was no nuclear pleomorphism and mitoses were not increased. Fat stain done with oil red-0 showed fat in the cytoplasm of some of the cells.

The endometrial polyp showed cystic endometrial hyperplasia. The rest of the uterine wall, fallopian tubes and left ovary were histologically normal.

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See Figs. on Art Paper VI