Congenital arteriovenous malformation of vulva-a rare case report

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Arteriovenous malformations (AVM's) are unusual congenital vascular malformations. This lesion though may appear first after the childhood is still thought to be con-

genital. AVM are more common in women and may vary from small pea to basket ball in size. The masses are pulsattile, bruit may be heard and overlying skin may be ulcerated. It can grow and rapidly increase in size in response to trauma, menarche or pregnancy and can be fatal if it involves vital organs. We report a case of AVM of vulva as it is extremely rare and may cause diagnositic dilemma.



Fig 1.: Photograph vulva showing rteriovenous malformation.

Mrs. R. P. 50 year old lady (4+0) presented on 1.7.98 with complaints of swelling in the vulva for last 35 years which was about pea head size to start with and increased to present size slowly in about 10 years. There was history of off and on dirty discharge and pain in the swelling for which patient took local treatment from private practitioner and got relieved. There was no episode of any bleeding from the lesion. On local examination, there were

three swellings on the right labia majora, soft spongy in texture and pulsatile.

Each was about the size of 4 cm x 4 cm (Fig 1). On the left labia majora and the perineum there were two similar type of swellings of size 3 cm x 3 cm and 5 cm x 5 cm respectively with ill defined margins. The overlying skin was ulcerated, nodular and hypertrophied. Per speculum and per vaginum examination revealed normal cervix and uterus with no adenexal mass. Provisional diagnosis of condyloma lata was made and the excision of lesions planned. The pulsation in the mass arroused doubt about the diagnosis and surgical consultation was sought. Surgeon diagnosed it as AVM of vulva. Surgical treattment was

deferred as it could have been hazardous since the patient may bleed excessiely during surgery. Hypertonic 7.5% saline was injected in the lesions in two sittings 1 week apart. On third visit of the patient the lesion was remarkably decreased in size.

She came for follow up for only six months, and aftewards she did not report for further follow up.