

ANEURYSMAL BONE CYST OF TALUS: THE RARE ENTITY

Syed Mohd Esmat Hussaini¹, Tiw Zhung Shen¹, Wan Zainuddin Wan Ab Rahman², Mohamad Razip Sirat³

¹Hospital Melaka, ²Hospital Kuala Lumpur, ³Hospital Muar

Introduction: Aneurysmal bone cyst (ABC) is benign but locally aggressive lesion frequently affecting metaphysis of long bones. The worldwide incidence is rare and estimated to be just 1% of all primary bone tumors. We report a very unusual case of ABC of talus in a teenage boy.

Discussion: A 16-year-old boy presented with 1 year history of intermittent pain and swelling over the right ankle. There is no history of recent trauma involving the ankle and no risk factors have been identified. Plain radiograph of right ankle displayed a multiseptated expansile lytic lesion involving the body of the talus with clearly demarcated margins and thinning of the cortex. MRI right ankle revealed a well-defined multiloculated cystic lesion extending to neck of talus with presence of fluid-fluid level within. Biopsy was subsequently done to confirm the diagnosis. Extended curettage with iliac bone graft was performed with no recurrence after 1 year.

Conclusion: ABC is most commonly seen in long bones like femur and tibia. Talus is an extremely rare location and less than 30 cases have been reported worldwide. Taori et al. reported such case in a 23-year-old who underwent intra-lesional curettage and autologous bone grafting with good outcome and no recurrence. Partial or total talectomy has been proposed in case of pervasive destruction of talus. Rationally, the approach follows the principle of treatment in giant cell tumor where comprehensive removal of lesion is imperative to minimize recurrence. ABC is still an enigmatic predicament that requires high clinical suspicion as it can mirror other differentials like giant cell tumor. The rare occurrence of ABC in talus as in our report is substantial in the long quest to further understand the nature of this condition.