

Chronic morale lavelle lesion of thigh masquerading a soft tissue tumor

Che Roselam, Mohd Atiq
Hospital Melaka, Malaysia

INTRODUCTION:

Morale lavelle lesion is a closed traumatic soft tissue degloving injury characterized by separation of dermis from underlying fascia due to shearing forces. The thigh, pelvic and hip region are the most common affected areas.¹

REPORT:

We report a case of chronic morale lavelle lesion (MLL) that presented like a soft tissue mass. The patient is 32 years old male with no known medical illness. Presented with complaint of swelling over right lateral thigh for the past 3 months progressively increasing in size with area of necrosis over the swelling area. He had history of fall onto his right thigh in a motorvehicle accident, sustained abrasion wound but never seek medical attention. Upon presentation there was a huge 20cm(L) x10cm(W) firm to hard swelling over lateral aspect of right thigh with area of skin necrosis at the centre of the lesion (Figure 1). Bedside aspiration showed hemoserous fluid from the fluctuant area of the swelling. X-ray imaging was done, huge soft tissue without air shadow or fracture seen. The patient underwent wound debridement of the right thigh. Intra-operatively noted multiple pockets of old blood clots with separation of subcutaneous tissue from the underlying fascia with necrotic fat tissue debris. The underlying fascia was covered with granulation tissue (Figure 2). Tissue culture grew *Staphylococcus aureus* and he completed antibiotic. The wound was co-managed with plastic team and healed without any complications.



Figure 1



Figure 2

CONCLUSION:

MLL are rarely diagnosed as posttraumatic sequele. Though they are not uncommon, they are rarely diagnosed which results in delay in their treatment.² Diagnosis is through a combination of history, clinical examination and imaging studies. Few modalities of treatment has been proposed but in this case open debridement was done in view of chronic presentation and huge lesion. Co-management with plastic surgery give better outcome.

REFERENCES:

1. The Morel-Lavallée Lesion: Diagnosis and Management, Scolaro, John A. MD, MA; Chao, Tom MD; Zamorano, David P. MD
2. Dawre S, Lamba S, Sreekar H, Gupta S, Gupta AK: The Morel-Lavalée lesion: A review and proposed algorithmic approach. *Eur J Plast Surg* 2012;35(7):489-494.

