

## Fibroma of The Tendon Sheath (FTS) Mimicking Morton's Neuroma

<sup>1</sup> MK Sharina; <sup>1</sup> Hassan Idham; <sup>1</sup> S Kularaj

<sup>1</sup> Foot and Ankle Unit of Orthopaedic Department, Hospital Putrajaya

### INTRODUCTION:

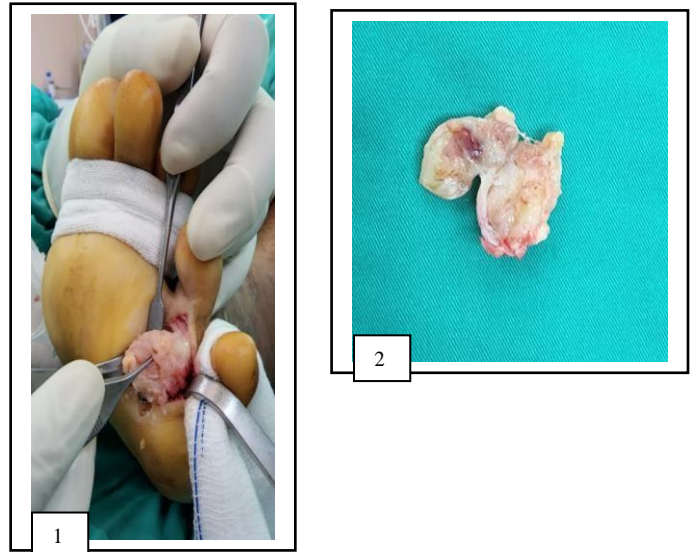
Fibroma of the tendon sheath (FTS) is a rare benign soft tissue tumor that generally arises from a synovial sheath and grows slowly<sup>1</sup>. It commonly occurs in upper extremity and rarely presents in the foot.<sup>1</sup> We report a case of fibroma of the tendon sheath involving the fourth webspace of the foot that mimicked Morton's neuroma.

### REPORT:

An 18-year-old man noticed pain over fourth webspace with a palpable lump for 2 years. The pain worsened over time affecting his mobility. Clinical findings were tenderness over the fourth webspace with palpable mass felt at the fourth web space with positive Mulder's sign.

Plain x-rays of the left foot showed radiolucent appearance over area between the metatarsal heads of 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> toe. Ultrasound findings were a lobulated soft tissue mass, abutting the adjacent flexor tendon. MRI showed lobulated lesion occupying the plantar aspect of 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> intermetatarsal space, abutting the flexor digitorum longus and flexor digitorum brevis tendon. This lesion returned hypo-intense signal on T1-weighted images and heterogenous with hyperintensities and some areas of low signal in T2-weighted images.

The entire lesion was excised surgically. The tumor was found to be well circumscribed, solid and whitish, with smooth surfaces measuring 3.0 x 1.5cm. The lesion was found to be adhering to the tendon sheath of flexor digitorum longus (FDL) of the fourth toe. Postoperatively, the symptoms subsided and the toe sensation was preserved.



**Figure 1:** Lesion occupying the 4<sup>th</sup> webspace, arising from FDL tendon sheath.

**Figure 2:** The tumor was found to be encapsulated, firm and white-colored.

### CONCLUSION:

Although usually painless, about one third of cases present with tenderness or radiating pain due to compression of the nerves underlying fibroma of tendon sheath<sup>1</sup>. The standard treatment of FTS is surgical excision, however the recurrence rate after surgical treatment is up to 24%<sup>1</sup>, therefore, Ludke et al. suggested that follow-up should last for at least 3 years.

### REFERENCES:

1. E.B. Chung and F.M. Enzinger, "Fibroma of tendon sheath", *Cancer*, vol 44, no.5, pp.1945-1954, 1979.
2. E. Ludke, G. Kohut, H.C. Backer, M. Maniglio. Is the recurrence of fibroma of the tendon sheath underestimated? *Hindawi Case Reports in Orthopaedics*, Volume 2020, Article ID 5357329. 4 pages.