

'Gigantic wrist: Tackling Troublesome Tumor with resection and allograft'

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INTRODUCTION:

The treatment of giant cell tumors (GCT) of the distal radius remains challenging, with no consensus on the optimal surgical management. Surgical management remains the mainstay of treatment with options including intralesional curettage and en-bloc resection with reconstruction. This case report focuses on the latter option, wherein we performed resection with reconstruction, aiming to preserve joint function.

REPORT:

A 40-year-old male, previously with no known medical illnesses, presented to our clinic with complaints of left wrist swelling since 2022. The swelling progressively worsened over the past year, accompanied by a dull aching pain. He reported no constitutional symptoms, and there was no family history of malignancy.

Upon local examination, the left wrist exhibited a firm swelling measuring 20cm x 15cm, closely attached to muscle and bone. An MRI revealed features indicative of an expansile lytic lesion in the epiphysis of the distal left radius bone, with soft tissue formation causing left ulna subluxation—likely a giant cell tumor. A tru-cut biopsy confirmed the diagnosis.

The patient received subcutaneous Denosumab for four doses, but the mass did not reduce. Subsequently, the patient was scheduled for resection of the giant cell tumor and left radius reconstruction using allograft. Follow-up appointments were conducted in our clinic to monitor the surgery's functional outcome, ensuring a comprehensive assessment of the patient's recovery and overall well-being.



Figure 1: GCT of distal end left radius

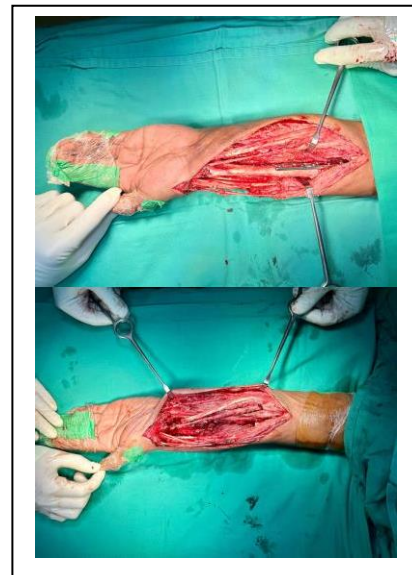


Figure 2: Post resection and reconstruction with allograft

CONCLUSION:

En-bloc resection remains one of the options in managing GCT of distal end radius supplemented with reconstruction. However, Surgical decision making should include both patient and tumor factors when determining the optimal treatment strategy for the patients.

REFERENCES:

1. Cheng, Chun-Ying MD; Shih, Hsin-Nung MD; Hsu, Kuo-Yao MD; Hsu, Robert Wen-Wei MD. Treatment of Giant Cell Tumor of the Distal Radius. *Clinical Orthopaedics and Related Research* 383(0):p 221-228, February 2001.