

Finding The Culprit: A Case Report On Malignant Melanoma Of The Foot.

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INTRODUCTION:

Malignant melanoma is a malignancy of pigment production cells (melanocytes) found mainly in the skin. According to the National Cancer Institute (NCI), from 2014 to 2018, the incidence of metastatic melanoma was estimated to be 0.9 per 100,000. Melanoma can be subdivided histologically. This includes superficial spreading, nodular, lentigo maligna and acral lentiginous.

REPORT:

This is a case of a 77-year-old male with a 5-year history of progressive swelling over his right foot. He initially presented with recurrent swelling over his right foot and had undergone multiple debridement at private centre throughout the years. Although numerous debridement was performed, the swelling did not heal and recur at the same site over his right foot. During his presentation to us, the lesion already progresses and started to cause pain with contact bleeding.

Excision biopsy of the mass was done. Histopathological examination (HPE) revealed as malignant melanoma with Clark level IV. Radiological findings MRI reported as fungating mass measuring 4.1 x 4.9 x 5.5 cm located at plantar aspect of forefoot with epicentre at 4th toe. Computed tomography (CT) shows metastases to lungs, thoracic and inguinal lymph nodes. In this case, right below knee amputation and right inguinal clearance was done.



Figure 1:
Preoperative clinical picture



Figure 2:
Postoperative clinical picture



Figure 3: MRI image of right foot

CONCLUSION:

Early detection and high index of clinical suspicious is crucial when treating a patient with non-healing ulcer or suspicious swelling. A thorough examination and evaluation should be done to allow early identification and early referral to orthopaedic centre to ensure necessary treatment can be given to patient.

REFERENCES

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