Primary Ewing’s Sarcoma of Kidney- a Rare Case Report

Dr. E. Rajesh Goud¹, Dr. Jakkula Srikanth ², Dr. Ramakrishna.Ch.³ Dr.Naga Sarika Vennavalli ⁴, Dr. Sri Harsha Muvva ⁵Dr. Kanmathareddy Amulya⁶
¹(Senior Consultant Surgical Oncologist –Department Of Surgical Oncology, Century Superspeciality Hospital, Hyderabad, India)
²(Post-Graduate General Surgery, Svs Medical College, Knr University Of Health Sciences, India)
³(Consultant Surgical Oncologist –Department Of Surgical Oncology, Century Superspeciality Hospital, Hyderabad, India)
⁴(Consultant Pathologist –Department Of Pathology, Century Superspeciality Hospital, Hyderabad, India)
⁵,⁶(Post-Graduate General Surgery, Svs Medical College, Knr University Of Health Sciences, India)
Corresponding Author: Dr. E. Rajesh Goud

Abstract: First case of Ewing’s sarcoma of kidney was reported in the year 1975. They are rarely found high-grade malignant potentials, with poor prognosis. Ewing sarcoma/PNET of the kidney is sparse, with less than 100 cases reported in the literature. We are hereby presenting a case of 19 years old female with complaints of vague abdominal pain. CECT abdomen and pelvis revealed a 16x16x15cms heterogenous hypoechoic mass arising from upper pole of left kidney. Radical nephrectomy was done. Immuno-histochemistry shows positivity for CD99, FLI1-1 and negative for WT-1. Morphology in correlation with IHC is consistent with Ewing’s sarcoma family of tumours. 6 cycles of chemotherapy with VAC regimen was planned and patient was kept on regular follow-up.

Key Words: CD99, Ewing’s sarcoma family of tumors, Immuno-histochemistry, Radical nephrectomy, VAC regimen.

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I. Introduction

Ewing sarcomas/primitive neuro-ectodermal tumors (EWS/PNET) of the kidney is a member of small round cell “blue tumour” family which are rarely found high-grade malignant tumors, offering poor prognosis. First case of EWS of kidney was reported in the year 1975.¹ EWS arises from neural and neural crest cells that invaginate into kidney during development.² It is a genetic disease with sporadic pattern due to a translocation type of mutation causing fusion between the EWS gene on chromosome 22 and FLI1 on chromosome 11. Most common site is bone. Less commonly it can affect the skin, soft tissue, or viscera.³,⁴ Total surgical resection is considered as the treatment of choice for these tumors. Herein, we report a case of 19-year-old female diagnosed with EWS with the help of Histopathology, Immunohistochemistry and cytogenetic analysis.

II. Case Report

A 19 years old female presented to hospital with complaints of pain abdomen since 20days, vague pain more localized towards left lumbar region. No other specific symptoms and on palpation single 12X10 cm with firm in consistency, ballotability present however borders are not separately demarcated. USG Abdomen revealed single 16X13cm heterogenous mass noted in retroperitonium. CECT Abdomen and Pelvis revealed a single large 16x16x15 cms well defined hypo dense mass lesion which is predominantly cystic with multiple solid components occupying left hypochondrium and left lumbar region, which on post contrast imaging is showing mild peripheral rim enhancement and mild enhancement of soft tissue components with large central non-enhancing necrotic component. Lesion was causing mass effect on pancreas, spleen, bowel loops and upper pole of kidney displacing it infero-laterally. Left adrenal gland wasn’t visualized separately. All the above features were suggestive of left renal mass /left adrenal mass/retroperitoneal mass.
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Figure 1: CECT Sagittal section showing mass lesion in the upper pole of kidney

Figure 2: CECT Coronal section showing mass lesion in the upper pole of kidney

Figure 3: Arterial MIP reconstruction image showing left renal artery displaced inferiorly and mass is supplied by branches from splenic artery.

All haematological investigations were within normal limits including 24 hours urinary vinyl mandelic acid and serum cortisol. USG guided FNAC was done from both solid and cystic components of the lesion which revealed scanty cellular smear showed cyst macrophages against proteinaceous background. There were no inflammatory cells or atypical cells which was suggestive of cystic lesion. Radical nephrectomy done and specimen was sent for histopathological examination. Post-op period was uneventful. Histopathological examination, revealed tumour in sheets intervening fibromyxoid stroma, vague rosettoid pattern with extensive areas of necrosis Ewing’s/PNET arising from the kidney. Tumour cells were mildly pleomorphic with round to oval, mitotic figures were about 3-4/HPF. Immuno-histochemistry shows positivity for CD99, FLI-1 and negative for WT-1. Morphology in correlation with IHC is consistent with Ewing sarcoma family of tumours (pT3aNxMx). Chemotherapy of 6 cycles was planned with VAC regimen (vincristine, dactinomycin, cyclophosphamide) and patient was kept on regular follow up.

Figure 4 & 5: Microscopic images under 10x and 40x resolution showing vague rosettoid pattern with mild pleomorphic round to oval cells
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Renal cell carcinoma (RCC) is the most frequent malignant neoplasm of the kidney that constitutes to more than 90% of kidney tumors. Ewing sarcoma/PNET of the kidney is sparse, with less than 100 cases reported globally. Among these, leiomyosarcoma is the most common (40–60%) followed by liposarcoma (10–15%). EWS/PNET is a rare but relatively aggressive renal neoplasm that typically manifests in old children and young adults (mean age of presentation is 28 to 34 years), with a slight male predominance.

Sarcomas of the kidney are usually asymptomatic until they are large enough to produce symptoms which are uncharacteristic such as pain (85%), palpable masses (60%), and hematuria (37%).

Due to its dismal prognosis and aggressive behavior, establishing ESFT/PNET’S diagnosis is pivotal for the treatment and follow-up. No radiological investigation confirms the diagnosis of PNET. It is based on the pathologic findings, assisted by immunocytochemistry and/or molecular analysis. The imaging characteristics of most renal sarcomas are identical to those of RCC. These tumors appeared as ill-defined, large heterogeneous masses with necrotic and hemorrhagic areas on CT and MRI.

Renal PNET often metastasizes to the lung, liver, and bone. MRI and CT provide an accurate assessment of local resectability and the detection of distant metastases. Furthermore, the use of 99-technetium scintigraphy is a sensitive method for the detection of bone metastases.

The differential diagnoses for EWS of kidney includes Wilms tumor, neuroblastoma, blastema rich nephroblastoma, monophasic synovial sarcoma, rhabdomyosarcoma, desmoplastic small round cell tumor, renal cell carcinoma, malignant lymphoma, metastatic renal involvement from sarcoma elsewhere in the body. Microscopic features associated with ESFT/PNET are considered non-specific as they can be seen in many other tumors. Under microscopy EWS forms spherical grouping of dark tumor cells around a central area that contains neurofibrils called Homer–Wright rosettes. On Immunohistochemistry, EWS shows strong positivity for CD99, moderate positivity for FLI-1 and NSE. However, CK,EMA,WT-1,LCA,TdT,synaptophysin,desmin and vimentin were negative. Approximately, 85–90% of EWS can be defined by a DNA translocation t(11;22)(q24;q12), which creates a functional oncogene.

Fine needle aspiration plays a vital role in diagnosis. Image-guided renal biopsy is important in determining the preoperative diagnosis as it alters the treatment plan in case of metastatic disease. Guidelines for effective treatment of EWS/PNET seem scarce, presumably due to the rarity of the disease. Radical nephrectomy is the first line of management.

EWS/PNET’S are aggressive tumors and may involve the lymph nodes and metastasize to lung, bone, and liver, which shows the need for multi-modality treatment. Surgical resection and adjuvant chemotherapy with or without neoadjuvant chemotherapy and radiotherapy have been implicated in the management of EWS/PNET. These tumors are relatively sensitive to chemotherapy. Initially, vincristine, actinomycin and cyclophosphamide were used, later doxorubicin, ifosfamide and etoposide were added to treat EWS. Radiotherapy(50-60-Gy) was useful in the presence of residual disease after surgical dissection, positive surgical margins, and loco-regional lymphadenopathy. Patients with localized tumor have a 5-year disease free survival rate of approximately 45–55% prognosis of patients with metastatic disease is poor, with overall cure rate of 20%.
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IV. Conclusion

Ewing sarcoma/PNET of the kidney is sparse, with less than 100 cases reported globally. Due to its dismal prognosis and aggressive behavior, establishing ESFT/PNET’S diagnosis is pivotal for the treatment and follow-up. No radiological investigation confirms the diagnosis of PNET. It is based on the pathologic findings, assisted by immunocytochemistry and/or molecular analysis. Surgical resection and adjuvant chemotherapy with or without neoadjuvant chemotherapy and radiotherapy have been implicated in the management of EWS/PNET.

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