

Malignancy that Mimics Cholesteatoma

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Background:

This is a case of a patient with soft tissue tumor extending from cerebellopontine angle to the middle ear that clinically presents as chronic suppurative otitis media with cholesteatoma formation on right ear with intracranial complication.

Methods:

Design: Case Report

Setting: Tertiary Government Hospital

Patient: One

Results:

Various studies shows that a components present in a tumor cells can also be present in cholesteatoma which has a role in cancer and skin disease. Due the similarities of both cholesteatoma and malignancy it is therefore not impossible that a malignancy could also clinically present as choelsteatoma.

A 44 year old female had consult due to one month history of right post-auricular swelling accompanied by a ten year history of right hemifacial asymmetry. Pre-operative CT scan was done and showed extensive lytic destruction of the right petromastoid bone with a mass in the petrous bone extending to the lateral cerebellar convexity. Diagnosed as CSOM on right ear with intracranial complication and subperiosteal abscess. The patient underwent craniotomy with mastoidectomy on right temporal area. A 3 x 3 cm encapsulated whitish ovoid mass adherent to the dura overlying the cerebellum was seen intraoperatively. Biopsy revealed, soft tissue tumor to consider atypical lipoma, atypical schwannoma or malignant fibrous histiocytoma. immunohistochemical staining is suggested.

Conclusion:

Malignancy and cholesteatoma can be clinically indistinguishable and could be easily misdiagnosed. It may share the same clinical course because of the similarities it posses. Therefore, cholesteatoma can mimic malignancy and certainly a malignancy could also mimic cholesteatoma.