

Case Report

FP 39: Spindle Cell Carcinoma of the Left Parotid Gland in a 71 year-old Female

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ABSTRACT: A 71 year-old female presented with a left lateral neck mass, and managed as case of an infected branchial cleft cyst. Excision biopsy of the left lateral neck mass was made with a final histopathologic diagnosis of spindle cell squamous cell carcinoma. Because spindle cell carcinoma of the head and neck is a rare disease entity, a PET CT scan was requested to locate a primary lesion. However, before further diagnostics were done, the patient was lost to regular follow-up. On subsequent follow-up, the patient presented with a left parotid mass, with a left supraclavicular mass. PET CT scan was done without any other noted lesion aside from the left parotid and left supraclavicular masses. The patient underwent total parotidectomy with modified radical neck dissection (levels 1-5, left), with frozen section with deltopectoral free flap reconstruction and advancement flap reconstruction. The final histopathologic diagnosis was spindle cell carcinoma of the left parotid gland with a supraclavicular metastatic lesion. Spindle cell carcinoma is a variant of squamous cell carcinoma and rarely occurs in the salivary glands as a primary lesion. Behavior is similar to that of a high-grade squamous cell carcinoma with prognosis dependent on location and stage. Treatment is similar to that of a high-grade squamous cell carcinoma with initial surgical resection and adjuvant chemotherapy and radiotherapy.

Keywords: *spindle cell carcinoma, parotid gland, parotidectomy*
