

Mesenteric Fibromatosis (Desmoid Tumor) Presenting as Recurrent Abdominal Abscess: Report of a Rare Case

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ABSTRACT

Aggressive fibromatosis or desmoid tumors, histologically indicated by small bundles of spindle cells in a fibrous background, are uncommon benign tumors without metastasis. They are recurrent and aggressive and their recurrence and severity is exacerbated following surgical operation. Based on previous reports, these tumors rarely present as intra-abdominal abscesses. Herein, a 54-year-old woman is presented who was referred with abdominal pain, fever, high ESR, and leukocytosis. On further evaluation, an intra-abdominal abscess was detected adjacent to splenic flexure of colon. Two months following antibiotic therapy, she came back with the same clinical presentation. In CT-scan, an abdominal mass was detected. Based on a CT-guided biopsy, presence of mesenteric fibromatosis was reported. The patient underwent a surgical operation and the tumor was resected.

Keywords: Fibromatosis, Desmoid, Abscess, Abdomen

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INTRODUCTION

Aggressive fibromatosis or desmoid tumors are rare tumors that consist about 0.03% of all neoplasms.(1), These tumors are usually associated with significant morbidity and mortality.(2), They have been reported more commonly in women and among patients aged 15 to 60 years.(3), They occur more frequently in patients with familial adenomatous polyposis (FAP) particularly those with Gardner's syndrome. This co-

incidence might be the possible etiology for 11% of its related mortality rate.(4, 5)

These tumors are histologically benign, but they behave like malignant tumors. They might invade locally and recur after excision.(5), They are histologically presented by small bundles of spindle cells in a fibrous background. The tumor cells show low mitosis with no necrosis. Immunohisto-chemical (IHC) study is always essential for differentiating them from other mesangial tumors.(6), Surgery is the treatment of choice of this tumor. Negative microscopic margins should be considered during the operation.(2)

CASE PRESENTATION

A 54-year-old woman presented with mild ab-

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