The Seldom Polipoid Mass in External Auditory Canal: Syringocystadenoma Papilliferum

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ABSTRACT

Syringocystadenoma Papilliferum (SCAP) is an extremely rare benign tumor that originates from modified apocrine sweat (ceruminous) glands. We report the case of a syringocystadenoma papilliferum (SCAP) that caused long time ear drainage and conductive hearing loss in an atypical location in the external auditory canal. SCAP is an extremely rare benign tumor and should be considered among others external auditory canal mass.

Key Words: Syringocystadenoma papilliferum (SCAP), external auditory canal

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INTRODUCTION

Syringocystadenoma Papilliferum (SKAP) is a rare and slow-growing skin hamartoma (1). It was first described by dermatologists in the early 20th century as nevus (2). Although it is thought to be developed from modified apocrine sweat glands, it has also been originated eccrine glands (3,4). SKAP is often found in the face or scalp. There are a limited number of the rare tumor in the external auditory canal (3).

In this case report is mentioned that the SKAP tumor which is a rare tumor location of the external auditory canal wall and is caused ear discharge and communication type hearing loss on the same side. The clinical, audiological, radiological, and histological characteristics of the neoplasm are critically discussed.

CASE REPORT

A 36-year-old female patient who had a 3-years history of right ear drainage, pain, and hearing loss was admitted to our clinic. Physical examination of the patient revealed a polypoid mass filling the right external auditory canal near totally. The mass was located in the posterior wall of the external auditory bone canal and was showed a pale pink with ulceration on the floor. Proximal ear canal and ear drum could not be assessed due to obstruction of mass. It was learned from the story of the patient that there was no chronic external ear and middle ear infection before 6 mount. There was no another important finding in the patient examination or history. Then, temporal bone computerized tomography scan was performed to determine the limits of the mass.
In the tomography of the patient, a mass of soft tissue filling in the posterior aspect of the right third of the bone external ear canal was seen. No pathology was found in the mastoid cells and middle ear. (Figure 1-2)

Figure 1-2: Computerized Tomography (CT) image of the patient

We planned to excisional biopsy for the definition diagnosis of the patient after tomography. Operation was performed with transcanal approach using microscope, under local anesthesia. The mass was totally removed after the origin of the mass in the posterior wall was found. The keratinous tissue which was formed by the effect of the obstruction, in the proximal part of the mass was cleared. After that, it was seen that the ear drum was intact. Then, the skin that was the origin of the mass was removed. The wound was cauterized with silver nitrate and left to heal secondary. Histopathological examination showed that the tumor was slightly elevated and occupied the entire dermis. The epidermis near the lesion was hypertrophic, while the overlying epidermis was replaced by glandular epithelium (Fig. 3). The upper part of the tumor contained cysts and irregularly dilated tubules with deep invaginations, from which thick papillomatous projections lined (Figure 4). The patient was followed up at the first postoperative year without recurrence.

DISCUSSION

SKAP is a benign serous gland tumor usually seen in face skin and scalp. It is very rare in the external auditory canal. Serous gland tumors constitute about 5% of all external auditory canal tumors (5, 6). Seruminous glands tumors are known as well differentiated tumors which is formed cystic and papillary changes of normal gland tissue histopathologically (7). Some authors believe that SCAP is associated with HPV infections (8). SCAP is often diagnosed at birth and puberty, on the contrary, we diagnosed this tumor was in the advanced age case.

SKAP is a benign tumor but it may be malignant with malignant transformation. The frequency of change to basal cell carcinoma is around 10% in the literature. In addition, squamous cell carcinoma, verrucous carcinoma, syringokiastadenocarcinoma papilliferum, and ductal carcinoma may also be transformed. For this reason, the tumor should be totally excised surgically and the recurrens should be well investigated with histopathological examination (8). Our case was an isolated SKAP and we did not find a secondary malignancy.

Radiological examination of tumors in the external auditory canal is important. For this purpose, either computerized tomography (CT) or magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) may be preferred. CT is better than MR to detect bone erosions and middle ear infiltrations (9).

As a conclusion, SCAP is a benign tumor that is rarely seen in the external auditory canal, is rarely recurrence after total excision and is may be malignant transformation.

Conflict of interest
No conflict of interest was declared by the authors.

REFERENCES