A case report of lymphangioma circumscriptum of scrotum along with milky urethral discharge

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Abstract

Lymphangioma Circumscriptum is a lymphatic malformation localized to skin, subcutaneous tissue and rarely muscles. It may present at any age but usually noted at birth or during childhood. It is due to malformation of lymphatic channels. We present a case of 9 years old patient of lymphangioma circumscriptum of scrotum along with milky urethral discharge. Patient was treated with oral sildenafil and CO2 Laser.

Key words

Lymphangioma Circumscriptum, Sildenafil, CO₂ Laser.

Introduction

Lymphangioma Circumscriptum presents as small clusters of blisters filled with lymph fluid. These may be translucent when the overlying epidermis is thin or varying in color from red to blue when contains blood. Common sites are axillary folds, shoulders, neck, flanks, proximal parts of limbs, tongue and buccal mucous membrane. 1,3

Case report

A 9-years old male patient presented with clusters of blister formation on scrotum and milky urethral discharge for 7 years. According to the patient’s father, it first appeared at the age of 2 years and was associated with the swelling of scrotum. There was history of trauma. It was not associated with fever or burning micturition. Family history was not significant.

On examination, multiple clusters of lymph filled vesicles of variable size ranging from 1 to 4 mm scattered throughout the swollen scrotum along with milky urethral discharge (Figure 1). It was not associated with lymphadenopathy or lymphedema. Ultrasound scrotum suggested thick walled scrotum. Biopsy of scrotal skin showed hyperkeratosis and acanthosis of epidermis with dilated lymphatic channels containing eosinophilic protienous material (Figure 2). Patient was treated with sildenafil 75mg in three divided doses and CO₂ laser.

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Figure 1 Swollen scrotum with clusters of skin colored vesicles
Discussion

Lymphangiomas can occur anywhere in the skin and mucus membrane.\textsuperscript{1,2} Common sites are axillary folds, shoulders, neck, proximal part of the limbs, tongue, and buccal mucus membrane, the scrotum is the rarest site. Although the disease is congenital, rarely there is occurrence of acquired cases in the scrotum\textsuperscript{3-5} and vulva.\textsuperscript{6} The disease is characterized by translucent vesicles of varying sizes scattered or grouped like frog spawn, containing clear lymph fluid. These vesicles are often associated with verrucous changes, which give them the warty appearance. The basic pathologic process in the congenital cases which are found at birth or early childhood are collection of lymphatic cistern in the deep subcutaneous plane that are separated from the normal network of lymphatic vessels. Acquired lymphangioma circumscriptum develops later, probably due to injury or damage from the deep collecting channels in the tissue, leading to stasis of lymph with backflow resulting in subsequent dilation of upper dermal lymphatics causing the lesion. These acquired cases are mostly due to infections like filariasis, lymphogranuloma venereum, tuberculosis, donovanosis, following trauma, surgery, or radiotherapy.\textsuperscript{3-6} The treatment options include surgical excision, sclerotherapy, electrocoagulation, liquid nitrogen therapy and carbon dioxide laser therapy and oral sildenafil\textsuperscript{8} a selective phosphodiesterase. Our patient is treated with weekly CO\textsubscript{2} laser and 50 mg sildenafil, marked improvement was noted with decreased urethral discharge after two months.

References