

Gigantism Mistaken For A Simple Lipoma: Macrodystrophia Lipomatosa

¹Ramlan MKR, ¹Abdullah S, ¹Sapuan J

¹Department of Orthopaedic, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia

INTRODUCTION:

Isolated digits gigantism of upper and lower limbs can cause by a rare mesenchymal and fibroadipose tissue overgrowth^[1]. This unusual overgrowth is called Macrodystrophia Lipomatosa (MDL), which is a congenital non-hereditary disorder^[2].

CASE REPORT:

A 10-year-old girl presented to our clinic with a swelling over her right index finger (Fig. 1). It is a slow growing mass and initially not disturbing her daily activities. Three months prior to presentation to clinic, she complained that the mass was disturbing her grip. Otherwise, she did not complain of any pain, numbness or constitutional symptoms.

On examination, there is a mass palpable at the radial side of her index finger, extending from proximal palmar crease to the proximal interphalangeal crease. The mass is about 3cm x 1cm, soft but firm, and slip test is positive. No tenderness and neurovascular examination is unremarkable.

As plain radiograph and ultrasound imaging was not conclusive, a magnetic resonance imaging was ordered. It shows a well-defined subcutaneous lesion measured 0.7 x 1.4 x 0.3 centimeters, which may suggest a subcutaneous lipoma (Fig. 2).

At this point of time, our differential diagnosis is a subcutaneous lipoma and planned for excision biopsy.



Fig 1: Mass over radial side of right index finger



Fig 2: MRI shows well-defined subcutaneous adipose tissue



Fig 3: MDL of the digital nerve

During the surgery, we found out that the adipose tissue is confined to the digital nerve instead of a lipoma (Fig.3). The adipose tissue then was excise along the nerve and send for histopathology examination.

CONCLUSION:

When encountered an isolated gigantism always thinks of MDL so that a proper planning for surgery can be done. We suggest for excision of affected nerved followed by nerve grafting.

REFERENCE:

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