Glomus Tumor: Hospital Kuala Lumpur Experience 2011-2018

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INTRODUCTION:

Glomus tumor is a rare benign tumor, which develops from the neuromyoarterial elements of the glomus body. The normal glomus body is a contractile neuromyoarterial receptors that controls temperature by regulating peripheral blood flow. We will present case series of glomus tumor that involves lesions of the extremities. Most of the cases presented to us with swelling, pain and cold intolerance. Majority of glomus tumor cases that involve hand and upper extremities are managed by our orthopedic hand and microsurgery unit Hospital Kuala Lumpur.

MATERIALS & METHODS:

In this study, 6 patients were managed under our orthopedic oncology unit at Hospital Kuala Lumpur from the year 2011 to 2018. Symptoms of cold intolerance and exquisite tenderness were present in all cases. Lesions varies from the size of 0.5 x 0.5cm at subungual region till the biggest size of 12cm x 3cm at right forearm. Surgical excisions were performed to all patients.

RESULTS:

All patients had complete relief of pain post operatively. No recurrences were reported and all diagnosis was confirmed histologically.

DISCUSSIONS:

Glomus tumors are commonly seen in the region of subungual, hands and extremities. They are even rare cases reported that involves the internal jugular vein in the neck and intraspinal region. Classical symptoms of paroxysmal pain, exquisite tenderness to touch and cold intolerance are reported in most cases.

CONCLUSION:

Glomus tumors are primarily managed with surgical excision. Due to the benign nature of the disease, recurrence is uncommon. High index of suspicion and careful clinical examination is the most important aspect of diagnosing this condition. Delayed or misdiagnosing and improper management results in undue suffering for patient.



Figure 1: Pre operative of glomus tumor of right forearm



Figure 2: Post operative glomus tumor of right forearm

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