Larenks Kanserinin Nadir Metastaz Yeri: Böbrek Metastazı Saptanan Bir Olgu

Renal Metastasis: An Uncommon Site Of Laryngeal Cancer Metastasis

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To the editor,

While laryngeal cancer constitutes the 2% of all types of cancers, it is the most frequently seen one in the head-neck area and smoking and alcohol are the most important factors in its etiology (1). Of all 95% of laryngeal cancers are squamous cell carcinomas (2,3). At the time of diagnosis 51% of cases have local spread and 29% of them have regional spread and 15% of them have distant metastases (1). Although laryngeal cancer often invades regional lymph nodes, it can also metastasize to distant areas such as lung, liver, mediastinum and bone. Renal metastasis is, however, very rarely observed and only 2 cases have been reported in the literature so far.

A 55-year-old male patient was admitted to the Department of Otolaryngology at Kocaeli University Faculty of Medicine in March 2005 with the complaint of a mass in his neck. His history revealed 25 pack/years of smoking and chronic alcohol usage.

A vegetative mass was detected starting from the face of right laryngeal epiglottis and holding the right vocal cord that extends to the left ventricle in the indirect laryngoscopic examination. Punch biopsy of the mass revealed squamous cell carcinoma. Other system examinations and laboratory tests were normal and the patient underwent total laryngectomy, bilateral functional neck dissection and the right hemithyroidectomy operation.

Histopathologic examination demonstrated keratinized squamous cell carcinoma and lymphadenopathy showing metastatic carcinoma 1.5 cm in diameter. The patient, who was considered as having locally advanced laryngeal cancer, had been followed-up without any post-operative treatment. Five years after the diagnosis computer tomography scans showed a metastatic hypodense mass lesion in the liver and a mass in the mid-posterior of the right kidney. No involvement was observed in the whole body positron emission tomography except for the hypermetabolic mass lesions in liver and kidney. Partial nephrectomy and metastasectomy of the tumor in the liver were performed. Both of the masses were histopathologically found to be consistent with the metastasis of the squamous cell carcinoma of the larynx (Picture 1).

Microscopically, tumor which presents invasion in the form of large islands in the left renal tissue and in the form of small groups in the middle, is seen. Atrophy and enlargement in renal tubules and lymphocyte infiltration in interstitium draw attention (Hematoxylin – Eosin x100).

Renal metastasis of laryngeal cancer is very rare, such that only two cases have been reported in the literature so far (4,5). In conclusion, although it is very rare the kidneys may...
also be checked for metastasis in a patient with larynx cancer.

References