An unusual bladder mass: Dermoid cyst and review of the literature

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ABSTRACT

Dermoid cysts are developmental benign anomalies and comprise at least two germ layer tissue. Dermoid cyst is usually known to be of primordial germ cell origin; however, there are some rare cases in which they have been noticed in other midline and paraxial organs. Although they generally settle in ovaries, they might be found in other tissues such as urinary bladder. Dermoid cyst should be kept in mind as a differential diagnosis for unusual presentation and histopathological appearances in bladder mass and should also be known that there is no need for further following up. We report a case of a 47-year-old woman with bladder dermoid cyst being the first case report from Turkey as a bladder mass resected endoscopically.

Key Words: Bladder mass, dermoid cyst, mature cystic teratoma of urinary bladder

Introduction

Dermoid cysts originating from primordial germ cell are considered benign neoplasms. They are very rarely seen in urinary bladder, commonly occur in ovaries. Up to date there are only 9 cases published in English literature. We present here a 47 year-old female with primary bladder dermoid cyst which is the first case report from Turkey as a bladder mass resected endoscopically.

Case report

A 47 year-old female patient presented with painless macroscopic hematuria. Ultrasound scan revealed a single echogenic solid bladder mass in approximately 1x1 cm in size within the lumen of the urinary bladder. The lesion was reported to be located at the posterior wall of the bladder with normal upper urinary tract. Physical examination, serum biochemistry were normal while urine analysis revealed 25 RBC/microl. She had no other complaints bowel and genitourinary tract. Cystoscopy showed a single 1x1 cm solid mass protruting from a small diverticula at the posterior urinary bladder wall. The rest of the bladder mucosa seemed to be normal. A complete transurethral resection (TUR) was performed and both the tumor and the tumor base were sampled individually for histopathologic examination. The histopathologic specimen analysis revealed a total of 6 TUR chips with the greatest chip dimension being measured as $5 \times 2 \times 1$ mm. All chips' color was greyish white. Microscopic examination shown multiple skin tissues lined by stratified epithelium with no epithelium. Each specimen section contained skin appendages, such as hair follicles and sebaceous (Fig. 1a-b). One specimen section contained a cyst that very closely resembled an epidermal (infundibular) cyst (Fig. 2a-b). The final histopathological diagnosis was reported as dermoid cyst. After this histopathological diagnosis we performed magnetic resonance imaging for evaluating the pelvis whether this was primary bladder dermoid or secondary to bladder wall invasion of primary ovarian dermoid. MRI revealed normal pelvis consisting of no cyst.

Discussion

Mature cystic teratoma, also called as dermoid cyst, is the most common benign ovarian germ cell tumor (1). Dermoid cysts consist of one or more types of cell originating from 3 germ layers (2). Histologically, they may contain mature or immature tissues and occasionally malignant elements. They commonly occur beside the areas

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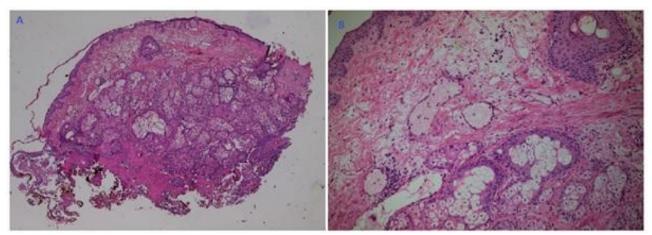


Fig. 1. (A) Photomicrograph demonstrates stratified squamous epithelium and pilosebaceous units (H&E, Original magnification x40). (B) High-power view of the hair follicle (right top) and sebaceous glands (bottom) (H&E, Original magnification x200).

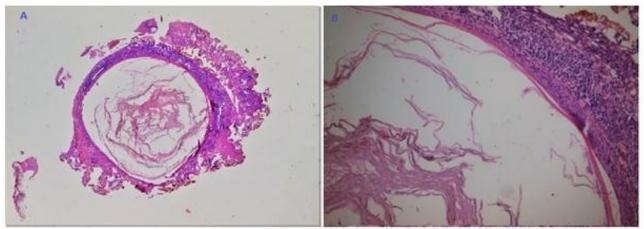


Fig. 2. (A) Image of epidermal (infundibular) cyst whose lumen is keratin-filled (H&E, Original magnification x40). (B) On the left side, lamellated keratin can be seen, on the right side flattened squamous epithelium is distinguished (H&E, Original magnify.

of embryogenic fusion lines, in midline and paraxial organs (3). Dermoid cysts are rather rarely encountered in the urinary bladder. So far only 11 cases of dermoid cysts were reported to be seen within the urinary bladder (4-14). However, only 9 of them were in English literature (4-6, 8, 9, 11-14). Each of these patients was presented with lower urinary tract symptoms. Two of them were evaluated with cystoscopy. In one of these two cases, cystoscopic appearance was like a teratoma since hair follicle could easily be seen while in the other case it was like a bladder mass (4,11). In our case, the chief complaint was macroscopic hematuria without voiding and storage symptoms of the bladder. Cystoscopic appearance was like a solid bladder mass originating from bladder diverticula. The histopathological findings have been confusing for pathologist because of the extremely rare bladder mass. This case is important in terms of differential diagnosis of bladder mass with unknown origin. Bladder dermoid cyst should be reminded as an unusual bladder mass and the patients can be reassured that it is benign and there is no need for further following up (9).

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