

CASE REPORT

A rare Localization of Mixoma: Originating in the Right Atrial Septum

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Abstract

Myxoma is the most common benign cardiac tumour. Approximately 75-80 % of cardiac myxomas are located in the left atrium. The most common non-specific symptoms are such as shortness of breath, syncope. A 74-year-old female patient was admitted to our outpatient clinic with shortness of breath and chest pain, in the echocardiography showed a mobile mass in the right atrium. The patient, whose diagnosis of myxoma was confirmed by trans esophageal echocardiography, underwent intracardiac mass excision. Because the right atrial myxomas are rare, we wanted to present our patient. An underlying cardiac pathology should be kept in mind in patients presenting with symptoms such as non-specific breathlessness

Key words: Right atrial myxoma, cardiac tumour, dyspnea

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Introduction

Myxoma is primary cardiac tumor which is benign character and occurs in the left atrium in more than 75% of patients. As an atypical location, the right heart location is observed in about 10-15% of cases and its clinical presentation is not specific. Although it is rare in tumors located in the right heart, it is known that the incidence of pulmonary embolism increases. (Shapiro 2001; Lepillier et al, 2010; Kaya et al, 2014).

Myxomas can be seen in almost any age group, but it is known to be detected most frequently after the third decade. The symptoms and findings detected in patients vary according to the localization of the tumor. Left atrial myxomas may present with dyspnea, syncope with the movement due to mitral obstruction and systemic emboli. It may show symptoms of right heart failure in the right heart and

cause pulmonary embolism (Castillo and Silvay 2010; Veicki et al. 2010)

In patients with progressive shortness of breath with no underlying cause or embolic pathologies for which no possible cause can be found should be caution exercised in terms of the possibility of intracardiac tumor. We presented to a patient with right atrial mixomas which is rare who applied to different outpatient clinics for several months with shortness of breath.

Case

A 67-year-old female patient was brought directly to A 74-year-old female patient was admitted to our clinic with atypical chest pain and dyspnea for about a month. The patient's dyspnea was independent of effort and was more severe over the past week. She had previously known hypertension with- out atherosclerotic risk factors. On his physical examination, blood pressure and heart rate were 120/80 mmHg and 95 bpm, respectively. Heart and respiratory auscultation findings were normal except for 2/6 systolic murmur, which was heard maximally at the left parasternal region. Electrocardiogram showed sinus rhythm and right bundle branch block. Transthoracic echocardiography showed normal left ventricular systolic function (ejection fraction: 65%) and mass on the rigt atrial septum (Figure. A). For a more accurate assessment, we performed a transesophageal echocardiography, which showed a mobile 2.1 x 1, 2 cm mass origination in the right atrial septum with a handle. Because of its mobility and the risk of embolization, the mass was surgically (Figure. B) removed. The histological findings showed myxoma. The patient was discharged uneventfully after the operation.

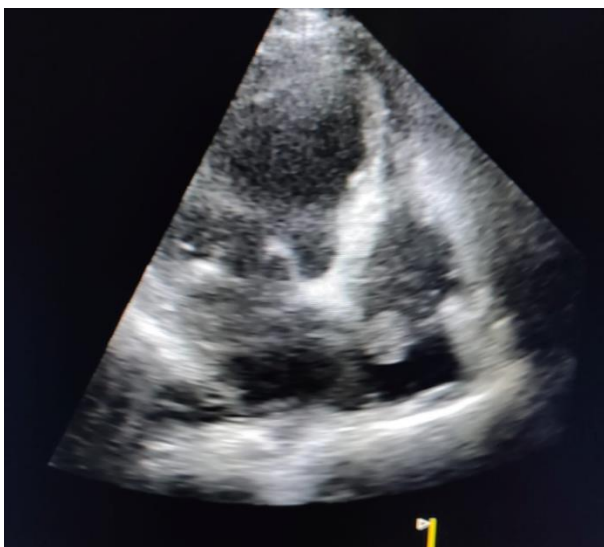


Figure A. Transthoracic echo image of myxoma

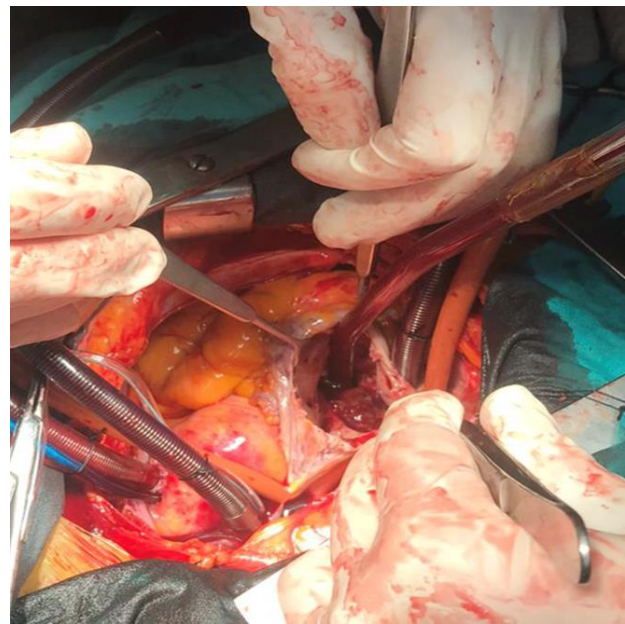


Figure B. Intraoperative view of Myxoma

Discussion

The myxoma is a primary benign cardiac tumor whose etiology is mostly unknown, adhering to the left side of the heart with a pedicle. Although it is suggested that myxomas develop from thrombus, these tumors are thought to originate from embryonal mesenchymal cells. Myxomas are divided into two as sporadic and familial form. Although it is the most common sporadic form, the family form has also been reported at a rate of 7%. (Sun and Wang 2008, Camm et al. 2009; Kaya et al. 2014;)

It is known that there is a correlation between myxoma size and symptoms. In addition to nonspecific symptoms such as fever, fatigue, and hemoptysis the most common symptom is with dyspnea and chest pain. Myxomas with right cardiac involvement may cause tricuspid insufficiency and right heart failure, depending on the location or deform the tricuspid valve. In addition, it has been reported that massive embolism may occur in these patients, and recurrent emboli may occur with small tumor fragments (Calejero et al. 2005, Beso and Cedo 2013).

Early diagnosis of myxoma is difficult because the symptoms of myxoma are frequently nonspecific. In patients with myxoma may hear diastolic murmur mixed with mitral stenosis during auscultation. (Camm et al, 2009). Diagnosis of myxoma is made by 2-dimensional transthoracic echocardiography in all cases. Transesophageal echocardiography gives detailed information about the localization and size of the tumor. Computed tomography and magnetic

resonance imaging techniques can also be used for diagnosis. (Kaya et al. 2014)

The treatment of myxoma is surgical excision of the mass completely and together with the intact around tissue. The point to be considered in the operation of the patient is that the vena inferior cannula should be placed after entering the pump when necessary to avoid intraoperative tumor embolization during cannulation. Surgical excision of myxoma results in complete recovery if performed carefully. In long-term follow-up, recurrence is very very rare in these patients. (Kuroczynski et al. 2009; Scrofani et al. 2020) Recurrence is generally observed in case of insufficient resection, tumor with several origin and familial type. (Pedro, 2008)

Conclusion

Right atrial myxoma can form a severe status after admission with symptoms of shortness of breath. Therefore, in the patient with shortness of breath and progresses or systemic /pulmoner embolic phenomenon the phsicians should be carefully and cardiac tumors should be considered. In these patients, evaluation with transthoracic echocardiography, which is a noninvasive diagnostic method, is very important and it should be remembered that these patients should be evaluated very carefully. Surgical excision should be done at an early stage after diagnosis to prevent it.

Ethics Committee Approval: Approval was received for this study from the patient.

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