

2nd Global Summit on

ONCOLOGY & CANCER

March 12-14, 2018 Singapore

Isolated cutaneous metastasis as an initial presentation of colonic adenocarcinoma in a 45-year-old male: A case report

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Colonic adenocarcinoma frequently metastasizes to the liver, lungs and bones. Cutaneous metastasis is a rare initial manifestation of colonic adenocarcinoma. This is a case of a 45-year-old male diagnosed with colonic adenocarcinoma, initially presenting with cutaneous metastasis. We report a case of a 45-year old male who came in due to the presence of a mass at the left gluteal area, noted six months prior to admission, which progressively increased in size. Pallor and weight loss were likewise present. Pertinent physical examination findings revealed presence of a gray to dark brown fungating mass, approximately 10 cm × 20 cm in size, at the left gluteal area extending up to the medial 3rd of the right gluteal region, with presence of bloody discharge. Initial incision biopsy has been done which revealed findings of Papillary Eccrine Adenocarcinoma vs. Metastatic Adenocarcinoma. On further work-up, no significant findings were seen on chest radiography. Computed tomography (CT) of the abdomen showed presence of left gluteal and ischioanal masses, retroperitoneal and mesenteric lymphadenopathies, suggestive of malignancy. Colonoscopy done revealed no significant findings. Patient underwent excision of gluteal mass with creation of gluteus maximus rotational flap. Frozen section biopsy of the mass showed a malignant neoplasm, consistent that of adenocarcinoma which are moderately-differentiated. Immunohistochemistry studies of the neoplasm show positive (+) cytoplasmic membrane staining for CK20 and negative (-) cytoplasmic membrane staining for CK7. The following immunohistochemistry are consistent with adenocarcinoma of colonic origin. The patient was then advised for chemotherapy, however, was lost to follow-up. Hence, cutaneous metastasis is a very rare initial manifestation of colonic adenocarcinoma. Cutaneous metastases are thought to be associated with poor average survival because of underlying widespread disease, thus physicians should be more aggressive in terms of management.

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