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Caution! Re-examination with deep biopsies can be required in diagnosing vaginal malignancies

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The female genital tract is rarely the primary site for hematologic malignancies which predominantly affect lymph nodes and bone marrow. We report a case of a 59 years old patient complaining of vaginal bleeding and puruloid discharge. Speculum examination showed a vaginal fungating necrotic ulcerated mass. Histopathological diagnosis, obtained after a second biopsy, identified a very rare type of primary, vaginal, diffuse, large B-cell non-Hodgkin lymphoma (NHL). The patient underwent 8 courses of R-CHOP immunotherapy (rituximab, cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin, vincristine and prednisone). Complete remission was achieved without any relapse during a 24 month follow-up. Primary vaginal NHL is a rare occurrence accounting for less than 1% of genital neoplasms. This entity is uncommon and clinically difficult to differentiate from inflammatory diseases or vaginal cancer. The circumstances of discovery are variable and can be related to the consequences of local tissues involvement by the tumor. The usual symptoms of lymphoma like fever, peripheral lymphadenopathy, weight loss or night sweats are frequently absent. Abnormal vaginal bleeding and discharge have appeared to be the most frequent symptoms in many cases. Other symptoms include perineal discomfort or pain, pruritus, pain during sexual intercourse, dysuria, acute urinary retention and tenesmus. Consequently, vaginal lymphoma should always be considered in the differential diagnosis of patients suffering from symptoms such as these in order to avoid radical surgery. This case focuses on the need of accurate and early histo-pathological diagnosis which has therapeutic and prognostic implications. However, this requires a workable sample insofar as biopsies may give false negative results.

Biography

Nohuz E has completed his PhD from Auvergne University, France and Postdoctoral studies from Clermont-Ferrand University School of Medicine, France. He is an expert Surgeon who has a pronounced affinity for Endoscopic Surgery (Laparoscopy and Hysteroscopy). He is the chief of Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Surgery at Thiers's Hospital, France. He has published more than 30 papers in reputed journals and serves as a Reviewer in medical journals of repute.

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