Non-Hodgkin’s Lymphoma Presenting as Multiple Bone Lesions
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ABSTRACT
A rare case of a patient with Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma (NHL) who presented with multiple bone lesions is reported. A 45 year old male patient presented for bony pains and generalized weakness. He had bilateral axillary and inguinal lymphadenopathy. Radiographic examination revealed multiple osteolytic lesions involving multiple dorsal, lumbar, sacral vertebral bodies, ribs, sacral bone and left femur. Bone marrow examination and serum electrophoresis was normal. Urine was negative for Benz Jone’s proteins. Serum calcium was normal. The histopathology and immunohistochemistry studies of the inguinal lymph node settled the diagnosis of B-cell Non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma.

Key words: Lymphoma, Bone lesions.

Introduction -
Lymphoblastic lymphoma is a neoplasm of precursor lymphoid cells morphologically indistinguishable from those of acute lymphoblastic leukemia. It usually manifests in the lymphnodes, skin, and other organs. Primary lymphoma of bone (PLB) is a rare condition composing less than 1% of all non-Hodgkin’s lymphomas, 3-5% of all bone tumors and 5% of all extra nodal lymphomas. The sites of lymphoma most commonly affected are the long bones and the usual symptom is bone pain. The outcome of patients with localized PLB is thought to be favorable after combined modality therapy (CMT). However some patients demonstrate systemic symptoms with multiple bone lesions. Hypercalcemia occasionally complicates NHL and is seen in about 15% of patients with disseminated disease, but it is relatively rare in PLB. This case was thought to be orthopedic case and was referred as there was no response to treatment.

Case Report -
A 45 yrs. old male patient was referred to medicine by orthopedic surgeon with a provisional diagnosis of? Multiple myeloma? Bone metastasis. Patient had history of bony pains and generalized weakness since one and half months. On examination, he was found to have bilateral axillary and inguinal lymphadenopathy. Radiographic examination revealed multiple osteolytic lesions involving multiple dorsal, lumbar, sacral vertebral bodies, ribs, sacral bone and left femur. Bone marrow examination and serum electrophoresis was normal. Urine was negative for Benz Jone’s proteins. Serum calcium was normal. The histopathology and immunohistochemistry studies of the inguinal lymph node settled the diagnosis of B-cell Non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma.

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round cells having round nuclei with nucleoli and scanty cytoplasm. \textit{(Fig. 2)}. Immunophenotypic study of the lymph node biopsy was positive for common leukocytic antigen (CLA) and CD 20. It was negative for CD3 and CK which suggested B cell monoclonal proliferation. Diagnosis of B cell non Hodgkin’s lymphoma was entertained. Clinical stage was stage 4 under Ann Arbor classification. He was put on chemotherapy consisting of cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin, vincristine and prednisolone (CHOP). Unfortunately patient was lost for follow up after completing 1 cycle of chemotherapy.

\textbf{Discussion -}

NHL arising in bone as the primary site is unusual. The peak incidence is in 5th decade of life with a predominance of male patients and most lesions occurring in lower part of body. NHL arising in bone also occurs in children and adolescents. The tumor formation may be the earliest manifestation preceding other symptoms, signs and bone marrow evidence of systemic malignancy in which bone lesions were first manifestation of the disease. Histological types of NHL restricted to bone with either localized or disseminated disease are predominantly the large cell lymphomas along with a substantial proportion of lymphoblastic lymphomas. There are only few small noncleaved cell lymphomas. The large cell lymphomas occur more often as localized disease where as the lymphoblastic lymphomas more frequently present as disseminated disease.

\textbf{Conclusion -}

Bone manifestations of lymphoma should be taken in mind in otherwise unexplained bone pain.

\textbf{Conflicts of Interest :} None reported by Authors.

\textbf{References :}