

Ollier's Disease with Parotid Involvement

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ABSTRACT

Ollier's disease is a rare, developmental nonhereditary skeletal disorder of mesodermal dysplasia characterized by multiple asymmetric distribution of cartilaginous tumors, enchondromas, with a predilection for unilateral distribution. This condition primarily affects the long bones and cartilage of the joints of arms and legs, usually in the region where rate of growth is most marked i.e. metaphysis. They lead to skeletal deformities and limb length discrepancies. The pelvis is often involved but ribs, sternum and skull are seldom affected. Very rarely it involves the soft parts, as in the salivary glands, testes of men and the breast of women. The Prevalence is 1/100000. The disorder is usually recognized in childhood. The cause is not known and there is no medical treatment. Surgery is indicated where complications arise, like pathological fractures, growth defects and malignant transformation to chondrosarcoma. Few Indian cases of Ollier's disease have been reported. This report describes a case of 32 yrs young male of Indian origin who presented with multiple enchondromatosis with bilateral parotid enlargement which is very rare and reported for the first time in India.

Introduction:

Ollier's disease, discovered by and named after the French surgeon Louis Xavier Le'opold Ollier (1830-1900) (1), is a disorder in which the ends of bones grow improperly and multiple cysts form all over the body. These large cartilaginous cysts form benign, painless bone tumors which are not life threatening. (1) Ollier's disease is most common in the hand, femur, humerus and tibia. Most cases are sporadic. The cartilage affects the inner parts of the periosteum. Symptoms are usually discovered during first decade of life. Involvement of parotid glands and testes is described though very rarely. (2,3)

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Case History:

History of Presentation

A 32 years, young male presented to us with progressively increasing painless swelling of the distal phalanx of left middle finger since 1 year, progressively increasing painless swelling on left forearm just above the left wrist joint medially since 3 months and bilateral parotid enlargement since 3 months. He had lower limb length discrepancy, the left lower limb being longer than the right limb. He had no major illness in past. His two other siblings and parents were normal.

Physical Examination:

On Examination: his pulse was 84/min, regular; all peripheral pulsation well felt, BP-110/80 mm Hg, there was venous varicosity on the left calf, bilateral parotid enlargement was present, left more than the right. The glands were soft, multilobulated, nontender with a discharging sinus on the superior

aspects of left parotid. There was a single lymph node palpable in the posterior cervical region on left side. It was discrete, mobile, nontender, 0.5 cm x 3 cm in size. Bilateral multiple, small, nontender, discrete inguinal lymph nodes were palpable. Exostosis was present at the distal end of the left ulnar bone. There was swelling on the left middle finger 3cm X 3 cm X 2 cm in size at the distal interphalangeal joint. The swelling was soft, nontender, lobulated, encircling the finger with increased vascularity. A punctum was present at the medial aspect of the swelling. Talipes Equinus deformity was present in both feet. Length of the left lower limb was longer than the right limb. The respiratory, cardiovascular, abdomen and central nervous system examination was normal. There was no haemangioma anywhere in the body.

Relevant investigations:

Hb: 11.7gm%

P.Smear: Microcytes +, Normocytes +, Mild hypochromia, Platelets adequate

TLC/DLC: normal

Blood Sugar Random-84mg%

Serum Creatinine: 0.69 mg%

HIV I and II- Negative

Urine Routine- Normal

X-ray both hands with wrist joint. (AP and oblique view)

- A large geographic ill defined lucent lesion seen in the epimetaphyseal region of the ulna on left side. Lateral margins of the lesion were smooth. The lesion was showing few internal septations. The lesion was causing thinning and expansion of the cortex. The lesion was purely lytic and margins also did not reveal sclerosis. Another ill defined heterogeneous lytic lesion seen in right radius was showing septae.
- Multiple irregular lucent areas were seen

in the distal end of right second to fourth metacarpals. The lesions were of varying sizes.

- Similar morphology lesions were also seen in phalanges.

X ray of Middle Phalanx of 3rd finger:

- It showed irregularity of the cortex with associated soft tissue component. The soft tissue swelling was showing increased vascularity upon limited Doppler assessment.

X ray both feet AP view

- Few well defined lucent lytic areas were seen in the 1st and 2nd metatarsals on right side. No marginal sclerosis/ calcification were seen.

X ray Both Knee Joint: AP and Lateral view

- Ill defined lucent lytic areas were seen in tibia on both sides. A round heterogeneous predominantly sclerotic lesion having peripheral zone of sclerosis and lucencies interspersed within was seen in the lower end of femur medially. Imp: These findings were suggestive of Multiple Enchondromatosis. (Ollier's Disease)

FNAC from left parotid swelling:

Smears showed sheets of small lymphocytes with few acinar cells in the background. No other cell type seen in smear studied. Cytological features suggested chronic inflammatory lesion.

FNAC from Middle Finger Swelling:

Sparsely cellular smears. Smears showed few small cells entangles in fibrin strands.

Background is haemorrhagic. Histopathology study recommended for conclusive diagnosis. Impression : Possibility of **Enchondromas**.

Treatment Given:

Patient was counselled about the nature of

the disease and its complication and was given various surgical options along with importance of regular follow up. Patient was not willing for any surgical intervention or further histopathological studies. Hence he was given symptomatic treatment and discharged. He was advised to follow up at 6 monthly intervals or if there were any complaints or pain in the existing swellings.

Discussion :

Chondromas are benign tumors of hyaline cartilage divided primarily into enchondromas or the hyperplastic forms and the enchondromas or the heteroplastic forms (3). Enchondromas proceed from the permanent cartilage and enchondromas occur in places where cartilage should not be formed, as in the bones, where it is most frequently observed and also in the soft parts as in the salivary glands, in the testes of men and the breasts of women (3).

When multiple enchondromas are present, the condition is called the enchondromatosis also known as Ollier Disease (WHO terminology) (4). The estimated prevalence of the disease is 1/100000. No racial predilection is known and it occurs equally in males and females. Clinical manifestations often appear in the first decade of life (5).

Etiology : Endochondral bone ossification requires progression of undifferentiated mesenchymal cells into hypertrophic chondrocytes and subsequent replacement of a cartilageneous matrix by mineralized bone (6). Enchondromas/Ollier Disease may result from abnormalities in signalling pathways controlling the proliferation and differentiation of chondrocytes leading to intraosseous cartilagenous foci. Olliers disease is thought to occur due to postzygotic somatic mutation resulting in mosaicism. Whether single gene or multiple gene mutations occur is not known. Formation of cancerous tumors from enchondromatosis come from varying expression of parathyroid

hormone receptor protein PTHrP or PTHRI (1).

Clinical Features : Enchondromas frequently affect the long tubular bones, particularly the tibia, the femur and or the fibula. On physical examination the enchondromas present on the extremities are usually visible as masses embedded within phalanges, metacarpal and metatarsal bones. Lesions are asymmetrically distributed and exclusively or predominantly affecting one side of the body (1), though they may at times be present bilaterally.

Enchondromas are by no means as innocent as Johann Muller thought. From the extension into the soft parts masses have been carried into lymph and blood vessels and metastatic forms have been noticed. Among the glands, it is the salivary and the sexual, which are chiefly affected, and among the former, the submaxillary and the parotid. The enchondroma may be either diffuse, affecting the whole of the gland or lobular affecting only certain lobes. The former is seldom seen in the parotid, most common form in the submaxillary. The sexual glands in the female are much less frequently affected than in men. In the testicles it generally occurs complicated with some other kind of tumor (3).

Radiography : Enchondromas on x-ray are seen as multiple, radiolucent, homogenous lesions which run parallel with long bone axis. They are frequently assembled in clusters, thus resulting in epiphyseal widening. Lesions are localized in the metaphysis of long bones and in the small bones of hands and feet. In the hands, the lesions almost never affect all metacarpal bones and phalanges (7).

Diagnosis: of Ollier disease is based on clinical and conventional radiological evaluations. Additional investigations like scintigraphy, ultrasound. MRI are not useful. Histology has limited role. **Differential diagnosis** may include-Hereditary multiple

exostosis HME, polyostotic fibrous dysplasia, klippel-trenaunay Syndrome, Weber-parks syndrome.

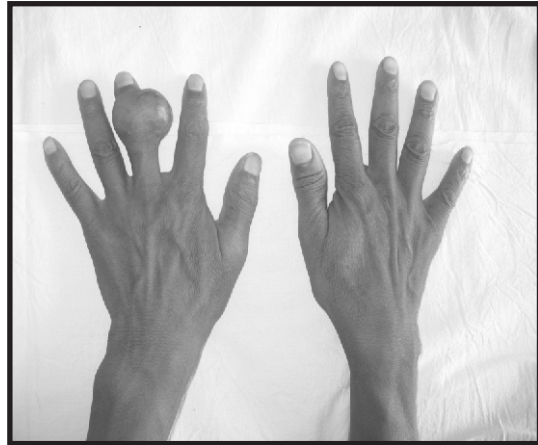
Complications may arise in the form of pathological fractures or malignant change as chondrosarcoma and osteosarcoma. About 25% of cases undergo malignant change by the age of 40 (8).

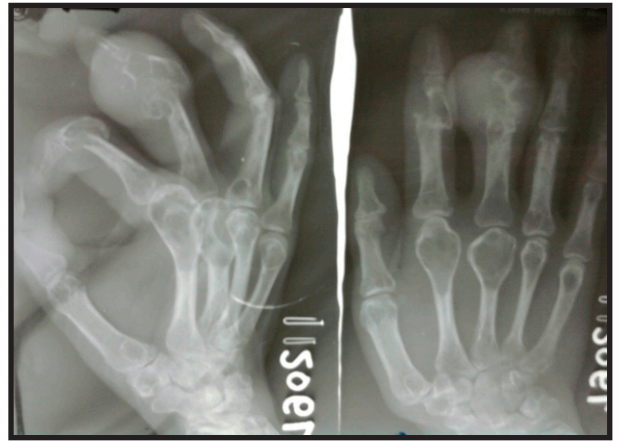
Treatment : There is no medical treatment and surgery is indicated in enchondromatosis complicated by pathological fractures, growth defect or malignant transformation. Prognosis is difficult to assess (1).

Conclusions: The patient who presented to us had symptoms for the first time in the third decade of life. Though clinical examination revealed disease on the left side, radiological features were seen bilaterally. Also the right lower limb was shorter than left suggesting disease early on the right side. Bilateral parotid involvement was again a rare presentation in him.

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