

ISOLATED INTRA-MUSCULAR CERVICAL CYSTICERCOSIS

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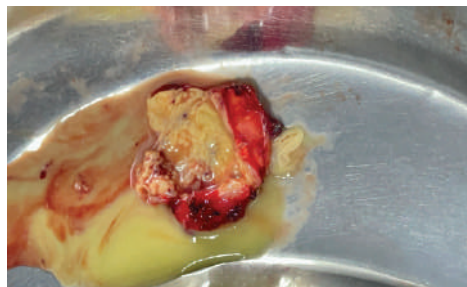
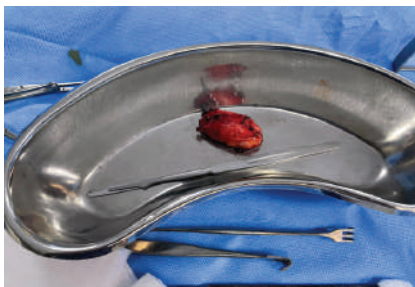
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43 Year old gentleman came with a swelling in his neck for the past 6 months. Patient complained of dull aching pain over site of the swelling no history of similar swellings elsewhere in the body. On radiological investigation by MRI, cysticercosis was suspected in the left cervical region adjacent to the left sternocleidomastoid muscle.

Patient was started on oral albendazole for a period of two weeks and asked to review once the course of the medication was completed entirely. Patient was taken up for excision biopsy of the cyst with due risks explained to them.

On exploration of the neck under GA, the cysticercosis was found to be in the intramuscular plane of the posterior belly of the sternocleidomastoid in the junction between the middle and lower one third.



The cyst was excised in toto with an intact cyst wall. Wound wash was given and wound closed in layers. Cyst was sent for HPE and Microbiology. Daughter cells were presumed to be dead on opening up the specimen post extraction due to the two

week course of Albendazole. Post op period was uneventful and patient was discharged.

DISCUSSION:

Cysticercosis is a parasitic infection caused by *Cysticercus cellulosae*, the larval form of *Taenia solium*.

Cysticercosis involving central nervous system has been commonly described, but it may affect eyes, subcutaneous tissues, liver, skeletal muscle, and at times lung and heart, causing varied clinical manifestations.

Intramuscular cysticercosis was reported in majority with the disseminated form of the disease. Hence, neurological and ocular involvement must be ruled out.

In the muscular type of cysticercosis, three different clinical manifestations described are the myalgic type; the mass-like, pseudotumor or abscess-like type; and the rare pseudohypertrophic type. Our patient presented with clinical nodular, mass-like abnormality.

To conclude, the possibility of intramuscular cysticercosis should be thought in regions where consumption of pork is common, whenever a patient presents with a nodule or swelling over the body and aimed to be extracted in-toto to prevent further dissemination of the disease.

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