A Case of Mixoid-type Liposarcoma of the Neck

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Liposarcoma, the second most common soft-tissue sarcoma in adults, arises predominantly in the extremities or retroperitoneum, less frequently in the head and neck region, and rarely in the neck. We report a case of myxoid-type liposarcoma of the neck.

A 50-year-old man with a few years' history of an enlarging painless swelling in the frontal-medial aspect of the neck, measuring 48×40mm in size at the present examination, was found on computed tomography (CT) to have a mass extending between the thyrohyoid muscle and the platysma. We extirpated the tumor with the overlying skin. Histological examination confirmed the diagnosis of myxoid-type liposarcoma. The tumor was completely covered with velamen, and the surgical margin was negative for tumor. No adjuvant therapy has been given, and the patient remains recurrence-free 27 months after surgery.

Keywords : myxoid, liposarcoma, neck

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Local findings in the anterior neck.

An elastic soft tumor was palpable under the skin in the mid-line of the anterior neck. The tumor is the size of a hen's egg with a smooth surface.

Neck CT scan.

a: Plain CT scan shows a 48 x 40 mm mass in the mid-line of the anterior neck between the platysma muscle and the sternohyoid muscle.

b: Enhanced CT scan shows slight enhancement of the margin of the tumor, demonstrating iso-density to surrounding muscles at the center of the tumor.

Pathology of the excised tumor.

HE staining shows signet ring-shaped lipoblasts (arrow head) as well as spindle-shaped lipoblasts, compatible with a diagnosis of myxoid-type liposarcoma.