A Case of Exophytic Angiomyolipoma of the Liver

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Abstract Hepatic angiomyolipoma (AML) is a benign liver tumor, composed mainly of blood vessels, smooth muscle, and fat cells in varying proportions. We report on a case of resected hepatic AML which was diagnosed preoperatively using contrast-enhanced computed tomography scan.

Keywords Angiomyolipoma · Hepatic · Computed tomography · Exophytic

Case Report

A 52-year-old woman who came for routine health check-up was detected by ultrasound to have a liver mass. The patient did not have any abdominal complaints and had no

history suggestive of tuberous sclerosis. Blood investigations like blood counts and liver function tests were unremarkable. Abdominal ultrasound showed presence of a well-defined hyperchoic exophytic mass arising from the left lobe of the liver extending inferiorly. CT scan of the abdomen showed the presence of an approximately 13×12×7-cm well-defined partially exophytic mass lesion arising from segments IV B and III of the left lobe of the liver with the presence of macroscopic fat and a punctate focus of calcification (Fig. 1a). Post-contrast images showed intense enhancement of the lesion (Fig. 1b) with hypervascularity in arterial phase. Due to the presence of macroscopic fat and hypervascularity, a possibility of hepatic angiomyolipoma (AML) was suspected preoperatively. Partial hepatectomy along with removal of

Fig. 1 **a** Axial plain CT image showing the presence of a well-defined focal lesion in the left lobe of the liver with exophytic component. The lesion shows the presence of macroscopic fat (*white arrow*) and small focus of calcification (*black arrow*). **b** Axial contrast CT section showing intense enhancement of the lesion (*black arrow*)

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the tumor was performed (Fig. 2). Histopathology confirmed the diagnosis of hepatic AML.

Discussion

AML of the liver was first described by Isahak [1] in 1976. Angiomyolipoma is seen usually in the kidneys associated

Fig. 2 Resected specimen showing the tumor (*white arrow*) along with the left lobe of the liver

with tuberous sclerosis. AML of the liver was initially considered to be a rare benign tumor, but with recent advances in imaging techniques, more number of cases has been reported

in the literature [2, 3]. The significance of accurate diagnosis is important clinically, as cases of hepatic AML are increasing in number. In contrast to renal AML, which is associated with tuberous sclerosis in 20 % of cases, AML of the liver is associated in only 6 % of cases [4].

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