

Rosary nodules of the legs

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Abstract

Segmental neurofibromatosis is a rare genodermatosis secondary to post zygotic somatic mutation of the NF1 gene. It may be accompanied by neurological and skeletal complications. We report the case of a 13 years old child with bilateral segmental neurofibromatosis on the thighs and legs. Clinical monitoring was proposed each year and genetic counseling was lavished.

Introduction

Segmental neurofibromatosis is a rare genodermatosis characterized by segmental symptoms. We report a case who presented painful and bilateral nodules arranged in series.

Observation

The child HJ, 15 years old, consulting for non pruritic painless swelling localized at gradually lower members that increase in size since 13 years old. The patient had no notion of consanguinity or similar cases in the family. Clinical examination found multiple subcutaneous bilateral nodules with a facing skin flesh-colored, grouped rosary on the thighs and medial sides of the legs. The rest of examination shows both lentigines and coffee with milk spots localized in the left flank without axillaire location (Figures 1-3). There was no plexiform tumors or osteo-articular abnormalities or ophthalmic neurologiques signs. Ocular examination didn't found Lisch nodules. We discussed the diagnosis of schwannoma, a rare lipomatosis or variant neurofibromatosis. Ultrasound soft tissue revealed multiple tissue pictures dented measuring 20 mm to 36mm in diameter, resembling to a nervous origin. The Histopathological exam of the nodule was in favor of a neurofibroma (Figure 4). The brain scan and X-rays of long

bones have not objectified anomalies. Segmental neurofibromatosis was detention. Clinical monitoring has been proposed every year.

Discussion

Segmental neurofibromatosis is extremely rare: 0.0014 to 0.002%, with female predominance at average 30 years old [1]. This is a somatic mutation postzygotic the NF1 gene. The risk of transmission is very low (1 in 18 cases) [1,2]. Segmental localization is due to a phenomenon of late somatic mosaicism. Lesions are usually unilateral. The particularity of our observation is represented by the following atypical clinical appearance of bilateral lesions in a string nerve pathway. Serious complications such as scoliosis, learning disorders, hematological have been reported [3]. The care of patients is not codified. In absence of a study regarding the risks involved in the case of segmental



Figure 1. Nodule of the thigh.



Figure 2. Nodules rosary at the leg (2 cm/2 cm).

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Figure 3. Spots lattes the flank.

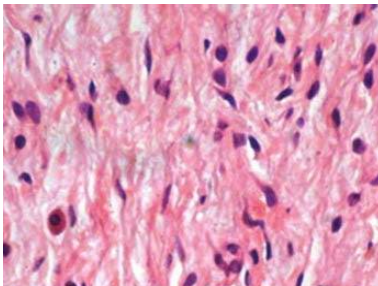


Figure 4. Proliferation of nerve fibers entangled in the connective tissue.

neurofibromatosis, it seems justified to provide an initial assessment and clinical monitoring. Genetic counseling should be done.

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