

# Bilateral Knee Haemarthrosis Secondary to Warfarin Therapy: Case Report

Wong BH, Muhd Shukri MS, Saifullah B, Zharift Syafiq AN, Lee MF

Orthopaedic Department, Hospital Sarikei, Sarikei, 96100, Sarawak

## INTRODUCTION:

Haemarthrosis is a condition of articular bleeding into the joint cavity. This can happen usually following an injury or with underlying bleeding disorder such as haemophilia. Haemarthrosis secondary to oral anticoagulant therapy is unusual. The frequency was reported ranging from 0 to 1.5%.

## REPORT:

69-year-old gentleman with underlying atrial fibrillation and history of transient ischaemic attack presented with the complaint of bilateral knee pain and swelling for the past 1 year. There was no history of trauma or injury. He was on warfarin therapy for his underlying atrial fibrillation.

Clinical examination revealed grossly swollen bilateral knee and patellar tap test was positive bilaterally. The range of motion of both knee was slightly limited with the range from 30 to 100 degrees.

Knee arthrocentesis was done with aseptic technique yielded a total of 120 cc of blood. The samples were sent for culture, gram stain and acid fast bacilli stain. Culture result came back negative and no acid fast stained organism seen. Patient was treated conservatively. The anti-coagulant were temporarily withheld and Robert Jones Bandages applied. During the subsequent follow-up at clinic, there was no recurrent haemarthrosis and patient is planned to be referred for knee arthroplasty in the future.



Figure 1: Right Knee X-ray



Figure 2: Clinical pic of Bilateral Knee

## CONCLUSION:

We need to have high clinical suspicious index of haemarthrosis for a patient who was on warfarin presented with joint effusion.

## REFERENCES:

1. James H. Wild, Nathan J. Zvaifler: Hemarthrosis associated with Sodium warfarin Therapy.
2. McLaughlin GE, Mc Carty DJ Jr, Segal BL: Hemarthrosis complicating anticoagulant therapy.