

Foot Swelling in Infant: Benign or Malignant?

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INTRODUCTION:

Soft tissue swelling in children usually are post-traumatic, inflammatory, vascular in origin or fibrous tumours and malignant tumours accounts for approximately about 1%. However children below 3 years could be present with swelling which arise from immature adipocytes and mimic lipoma. Majority of these swelling are found at extremities, trunk, head and neck. We are presenting a case of uncommon foot swelling in an infant.

REPORTS:

We are presenting a case of 10 month old boy whom presented our clinic for left foot swelling over 3rd webspace. Initial examination showed firm, well defined swelling over plantar aspect of 3rd webspace. It was non tender and no evidence of bone involvement in radiograph. Further investigation with sonograph reported as benign soft tissue mass. In view of growing mass and diverging deviation of 3rd and 4th toe we proceeded with excision biopsy. Intra operative finding show multilobulated well capsulated mass. Histopathological assessment of mass reported as lobulated mass composed of adipocytes with various stages of differentiation from spindled to multivacuolated lipoblasts to mature adipocytes with no malignant features identified. Clinical presentation and HPE had concluded that this child had Lipoblastoma of Left foot. In further follow-up; no recurrent swelling was noted.



Figure 1 Pre-op images of foot swelling



Figure 2 Appearance of swelling intraoperative

CONCLUSION:

Lipoblastoma is relatively rare tumour, but almost present in children below age of 3. Lipoblastoma can have recurrence, but metastases have never been described. Proposed ideal treatment for lipoblastoma is complete surgical excision of lesion thus preventing recurrence. With a documented incidence of recurrence rate range from 12 to 25%, thus regular follow-up for years is suggested.

REFERENCES

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