Aneurysmal bone cyst of left proximal femur

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INTRODUCTION:

Aneurysmal bone cysts are non-malignant, tumor-like, vascular lesions comprised of blood-filled channels. Although they can occur in any bone, they are most common in the femur, tibia, and vertebrae. Their expansile nature may result in pain and inflammation, and disruption of joints and growth plates. They can grow aggressively, be locally destructive, and weaken bones to the point of pathologic fracture.

REPORT:

A 4 y/o boy with no comorbids presented with left hip pain for 3 days ,on and off fever for 5 days. He was also noted to have abnormal gait for 5 days. There was no history of URTI sx ,trauma ,family history of malignancy , loss of appetite and loss of weight and no previous history of left hip pain.

On examination, child walks with an antalgic gait.Left hip examination shows no discolouration, swelling, wound, skin changes or warmth. Left hip is tender on palpation however range of motion is full.

Xray shows a lytic lesion of the proximal left femur which is multiloculated and has a narrow zone of transition. No periosteal reaction or fracture seen.Blood investigation shows WCC 15.3,HB: 11, platelet:440,CRP:17.

The child underwent curettage ,synthetic bone graft ,k-wire insertion of the left proximal femur and hip spica application. Intraoperatively left proximal femur was reamed .Bloody fluid was aspirated from bone cyst, no pus seen .Synthetic bone graft was used to fill in the dead space .3 K wires size 2.0mm were inserted .



Figure 1: preoperative pelvis xray AP view



Figure 2: Postoperative pelvis xray AP view

Postoperatively child was well, afebrile not in pain.Fluid C+S and AFb are negative. HPE showed no dysplasia or malignancy.

CONCLUSION: Once diagnosed with an aneurysmal bone cyst, the patient should obtain a referral to an orthopedic oncologist. Surgical intervention is typically the treatment of choice to prevent pathological fracture. Differentials include UBC, Telangiectatic osteosarcoma, Giant Cell Tumour.

REFERENCES:

1. Aneurysmal Bone Cysts

Kyle J. Stevens; James A. Stevens