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A small angioleiomyoma of the elbow: a case of unusual pain

Kwang Jae Lee^{1,2*†}, Yong-Soon Yoon^{1,2}, Young-Cheol Yun¹

Presbyterian Medical Center, Department of Rehabilitation Medicine¹, Presbyterian Medical Center, Medical Device Clinical Trial Center²

The Angioleiomyoma is a benign smooth muscle tumor that originates in the tunica media of the veins. It would be found in the dermis, the subcutis, or the superficial fascia of the anywhere in the body and is most often seen in the extremities, particularly the lower leg. The typical lesion is a small, slowly growing, round, but firm and mobile nodule. Pain is the most common clinical symptom and is thought be caused by the contraction of smooth muscle leading to focal ischemic pain. We report a case of angioleomyoma located in the lateral aspect of the elbow, which was mistaken for extradigital glomus tumor after history taking, physical examination, and ultrasound. With pinpoint tenderness, allodynia, worsening sharp pain in cold exposure for several years, the patient was referred for a further evaluation, and the lesion was 0.6 cm sized well-circumscribed mass in the lateral elbow with arterial signal on color Doppler by ultrasound and finally diagnosed as angioleimyoma following complete excision and pathologic evaluation. The symptoms were subsided and the patient was relieved. This present case highlights the importance in considering this rare disease in the differential diagnosis of the elbow pain.