Cavernous Hemangioma of the Upper Lip

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A 67 year-old woman presented with a progressively growing nodule of the upper lip, slightly left of midline (Panel 1a, 1b, 1c). There was no significant medication history and no systemic illnesses were reported. A Doppler study of the lesion showed a well-circumscribed echoic mass consistent with cavernous hemangioma. Abdominal ultrasound, echocardiography, and pulmonary roentgenography failed to reveal additional abnormalities, and other laboratory studies (complete blood count, routine chemistry, complement studies, and streptolysin-O titer) were within normal limits. The lesion was excised, and histology was consistent with cavernous hemangioma. The wound healed uneventfully, and no recurrence was reported.

Hemangiomas are benign tumors more often seen in infancy and childhood, in 10% of children in their first year of age. Hemangiomas of infancy are common on lips, tongue and palate. In about 50% of cases a complete resolution occurs [1].

Cavernous hemangiomas are characterized by enlarged vascular channels. With single-layered endothelium and smooth muscle cells around. They seem to be the result of a disturbed angiogenesis. Differential diagnoses include pyogenic granuloma, venous malformations, hemangioendothelioma, Kaposi sarcoma, tufted angioma, and other rare vascular tumors [2, 3]. In case of multiple cavernous hemangiomas of skin Bean’s syndrome (Blue rubber-bleb nevus syndrome) needs to be considered with the possibility of gastrointestinal and central nervous hemangiomas, intestinal bleeding, and cortical blindness. Other genetic disorders with multiple hemangiomas are Maffucci syndrome, Klippel-Trenaunay syndrome, Gorham syndrome, and Parkes-Weber syndrome [4].

Whereas in infants and children treatment is primarily by drug therapy with topical Brimonidine/Timolol, systemic corticosteroids or Propranolol and warranted in only 20% of cases, hemangiomas acquired in adulthood do not tend to spontaneously regress and they do not respond to drug therapy. Vascular laser and surgery are the primary options in such circumstances [5, 6]. A critical point in the present case is the preservation of the vermilion for an optimal esthetic outcome.
References:

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Master of Art e първият на Балканите международен филмов фестивал за документални и рекламни филми в сферата на изкуствата с амбицията да представя най-добрите документални филми в областта на музиката и танца, театъра и киното, изобразителното изкуство и фотографията, архитектурата и дизайна, литературата, продуцирани и имали премиера по света след 1.1.2015 г. По този начин Фестивалът се стреми да приобщи максимално българската публика към съвременните световни тенденции в тези сфери и да предостави на публиката алтернатива на масовата култура.

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