Isolated adductor myocysticercosis in a 6-year-old girl

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DESCRIPTION

A 6-year-old girl presented with asymptomatic right thigh swelling over medial aspect for 6 weeks. Examination revealed a 5 cm x 4 cm, non-tender, mobile swelling, not fixed to the skin or underlying structures. The rest of the examination was within normal limits. There was no history of seizures, headache or ophthalmic complaints. Ultrasonography of the right thigh revealed a well-defined cystic lesion measuring 11.5 cm x 4.3 cm seen in the adductor muscle of the thigh with eccentric echogenic focus within (figure 1). No perilesional oedema was seen. Stool examination was negative for Taenia solium eggs. Serological testing could not be done due to affordability issues. A diagnosis of vesicular stage of isolated adductor myocysticercosis was made. Neuroimaging and ophthalmic assessment were unremarkable. Patient was treated with oral albendazole as an outpatient basis and had uneventful recovery at 1 month of follow-up with thigh swelling got completely resolved. However, we could not repeat an ultrasonography a few months later as she was lost to follow-up.

Occurrence of myocysticercosis caused by larval form of T. solium is not uncommon in developing countries like India. It may involve any organ system but mostly detected in the brain, eyes and muscles. A thorough search with neuroimaging and ophthalmic assessment should be done for central nervous system involvement as isolated myocysticercosis is unusual and rare.

Learning points

► Myocysticercosis is a parasitic disease caused by larval form of Taenia solium in tropics.
► Larvae may involve any organ system but mostly detected in the brain, eyes and muscles.
► A thorough search with neuroimaging and ophthalmic assessment should be done for central nervous system involvement as isolated myocysticercosis is unusual and rare.

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