



Title: Pigmented Villonodular Synovitis of the Ankle - Radiation Therapy as a Primary Treatment to Reduce Recurrence: A Case Report

Authors

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Purpose Pigmented villonodular synovitis (PVNS) is an uncommon proliferative disease usually affecting the synovium of the joint (2% in foot and ankle joints) and or tendon sheaths. PVNS has a high rate of recurrence, up to 45%. Radiation has been suggested as a means to reduce recurrence. Traditional treatment includes synovectomy with arthroplasty of the affected joint. We present a case of PVNS where the patient was treated in two stages: surgical resection of the tumor and arthroplasty of the ankle joint followed by radiation therapy.

Methods A retrospective review of chart, radiographs and MRI's was conducted for a 35 year old, afro-american female who had been treated using this combination of surgical excision, ankle arthroplasty and serial radiation therapy of the right extremity.

Procedures The patient underwent surgical resection of the PVNS tumor and ankle arthroplasty followed by a series of radiation treatments of 34Gy in 15 doses over a three week period.

Results Pathologic examination of the tumor confirmed the diagnosis of PVNS. No evidence of recurrent PVNS was identified on post operative MRI at greater than 1-year follow up.

Discussions Using radiation therapy as an adjunctive treatment to reduce the risk of recurrence after surgical debridement and debulking of the soft tissue tumor has been suggested. The fact that this patient reports very high satisfaction (i.e. would have the procedure done again) and enjoys excellent functional results supports the potential benefit of adjunctive radiation therapy for this condition.

Category

Institutional

Classification

Rearfoot and Ankle Reconstruction

Format

Case Study

LevelOfEvidence

Level IV

Additional Questions

Financial Disclosure - Please identify any financial affiliations by checking the appropriate, Yes.

Grant/Research

N

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