HYDATID CYST OF ORBIT - A CASE REPORT

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INTRODUCTION

Hydatid cysts are common parasitic cysts seen in liver, lungs and brain. Although they can occur anywhere in the body, their orbital involvement is rare.

CASE REPORT

A 30 year old female came with the complaints of diminished vision in right eye and painless progressive protrusion of right eye ball since last six and half months.

Right eye examination showed it’s anterolateral displacement with wide palpebral fissure and 8mm of proptosis. Eye movements were restricted in all directions.

On palpation soft cystic mass was felt just below superior orbital margin, extending nasally. It was freely mobile. She had less than 6/60 vision in right eye. Examination of left eye and systemic examination did not reveal any abnormality.

Computerised Tomography (C.T.Scan) of orbit showed single 3.3x3.1x2.6cm, well circumscribed cyst situated intraorbitally and extraconally in the medial aspect of right eyeball causing it’s anterolateral displacement. The fluid accentuation was 14 Honsfield Units (HU) indicating thick fluid. There was no intracranial extension of the cyst (Fig.1).

Surgically excised cyst was egg white and of 5x3x2cm size. It was unilocular and contained colorless granular fluid. Microscopic examination of it showed scolices of Echinococcus granulosus (Fig.2). Histopathology of the cyst showed a laminated cyst wall without any inflammatory reaction around.

Thoracic x-ray and abdominal ultrasonography ruled out presence of similar cysts there. Tab. Albendazole 500mg twice a day for three months was given to minimize chances of recurrence. One year follow up revealed improvement in her vision and complete disappearance of proptosis.

DISCUSSION

Despite the frequency of systemic infestations, hydatid cysts in orbit are quite rare (1%)1.2. Hydatid cysts of orbit are common between two and thirty years. They may occur in any part of the orbit but
are commoner in its upper part, localized in muscles. Hydatid should be considered in presence of unilateral proptosis of longer duration.

REFERENCES


