

TUBULO-SQUAMOUS POLYP OF THE VAGINA

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Summary

We report a case of an 86-year-old female with a tubulo-squamous polyp of the vagina. Grossly, the polyp measured 2 x 1.5 x 1 cm. Histologically, it was composed of well-circumscribed nests of squamous cells with bland nuclei. Some of the squamous nests showed central spaces filled with necrotic debris. Small tubules were present at the periphery of some of the nests, and there were a few tubules unassociated with the squamous nests. Furthermore, several larger mucinous glands, some with apparent squamous metaplasia, were present. The stroma was fibrous and rather hypocellular. Surface of the polyp was covered by intact squamous epithelium, which was not connected with the underlying lesion. The recently described tubulo-squamous vaginal polyp represents a distinctive entity. To the best of our knowledge, only one study describing a series of ten cases has been reported in the literature to date.

Key words: tubulo-squamous – polyp – vagina

Souhrn

Tubulo-skvamózní polyp vagíny

Popisujeme tubulo-skvamózní polyp vagíny u 86leté ženy. Makroskopicky se jednalo o lézi velikosti 2 x 1,5 x 1 cm. Histologicky byl polyp tvořen dobře ohraničenými hnízdy dlaždicových buněk s blandními jádry lokalizovanými ve fibrózním stromatu. Některá z těchto hnízd měla centrálně dutinu vyplněnou nekrotickým materiálem. V periférii některých hnízd byly přítomny drobné tubuly. Nečetné tubuly byly zastíženy i bez souvislosti s hnízdy dlaždicových epitelii. Kromě toho byly přítomny ojedinělé větší mucinózní žlázky, některé s dlaždicobuněčnou metaplazií. Na povrchu polypu byl intaktní vaginální dlaždicový epitel, který s lézí nesouvisel. Tubulo-skvamózní polyp vagíny je recentně popsána jednotka; v literatuře jsme našli pouze jednu práci popisující 10 případů.

Klíčová slova: tubulo-skvamózní – polyp – vagína

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Vaginal polyps are uncommon and represent a heterogeneous group of lesions. Their histological diagnosis is usually straightforward since most of vaginal polypoid lesions are simple fibroepithelial polyps (1, 10, 11). However, a variety of mesenchymal lesions could present as a polypoid mass, including leiomyoma, superficial myofibroblastoma of the lower female genital tract, rhabdomyoma and embryonal rhabdomyosarcoma (sarcoma botryoides) (4–7, 16). Moreover, some epithelial and mixed tumors may form a polypoid mass. These tumors include enteric-type adenoma, squamous cell and other types of carcinoma, malignant mixed müllerian tumor, and both benign and malignant mixed tumor of the vagina (3, 12, 14, 15). Another type of vaginal polyp has recently been described. It consisted of an admixture of nests of squamous cells and tubules in fibrous stroma. This polyp, which represents a distinctive entity, has been reported in a series of ten cases as the “tubulo-squamous polyp” (9). Herein we report another case of this peculiar lesion together with its immunohistochemical analysis.

CASE REPORT

An 86-year-old female visited her physician because of some vaginal discomfort. She was sent for gynecological

examination. On examination, a polyp was removed from the posterior wall of the upper part of her vagina. Currently, 3 months after the polypectomy, she shows no sign of the disease.

RESULTS

Grossly, the polyp measured 2 x 1.5 x 1 cm. The cross section revealed grayish tissue with unevenly distributed multiple small yellow foci up to 0.2 cm in diameter.

Histologically, the polyp was composed of well-circumscribed nests of squamous cells with bland nuclei (Fig. 1). Mitotic figures were not identified. Some of the squamous nests had central spaces occasionally filled with necrotic debris. Small tubules were present mostly at the periphery of some nests (Fig. 2). In some of these tubules there were PAS and Alcian blue positive mucosubstances, which were located mostly intraluminaly. There were also some small tubules and glands unassociated with the squamous nests, sometimes arranged into small clusters. These tubules were lined by a single layer of cuboidal cells with small bland nuclei and scarce cytoplasm. In some tubules unassociated with squamous elements there was apparent a double layer of basal and luminal cells. In some of these tubules, there was