

PRIMARY CARDIAC SARCOMA – A CASE REPORT

Yi-Chun Tsai¹, Chee-Siong Lee^{1,3}, Yi-Chang Liu^{1,2}, Chaw-Chi Chiu⁴, Sheng-Feng Lin^{1,2}

Department of Internal Medicine¹, Division of Hematology and Oncology², Division of Cardiology³. Department of Surgery, Division of Cardiovascular Surgery⁴, Kaohsiung Medical University Hospital, Kaohsiung City, TAIWAN

BACKGROUND : Primary cardiac tumors are rare with incidence between 0.0017% and 0.0019%. Twenty-five percent of cardiac tumors are malignant. Sarcomas are the most common type of primary malignant tumors of the heart. Cardiac sarcomas are associated with a poor prognosis because of the rapid and aggressive behavior and they are hard to detect.

CASE REPORT : This article reports a case of primary cardiac sarcoma and tumor regressed after 2 cycles of chemotherapy. The 55-year-old man had cough with white sputum and dyspnea on exertion for 1 month. Echocardiography, computerized tomography scans of the chest and magnetic resonance imaging showed tumor in left atrium with extension to left superior and inferior pulmonary vein. The tumor was partially resected and the pathology revealed cardiac sarcoma. However, follow up computerized tomography scans 2weeks postoperatively showed rapid regrowth of tumor . Chemotherapy with MAID regimen was started. After 2 cycles of chemotherapy, his symptoms were improved and tumor regressed. A radiotherapy with a total dose of 6000cGy was followed.

DISCUSSION/ CONCLUSION : Surgical intervention is necessary for tissue sampling and can palliate intracardiac obstruction caused by primary cardiac sarcoma. Adjuvant therapy with chemotherapy or radiotherapy following surgery may intense regression of tumor. and relieve symptom. But the benefits of adjuvant therapy following surgery are uncertain.

Keywords : cardiac sarcoma

