

SQUAMOUS CELL CARCINOMA IN A CHILD OF 6 YEARS- (A CASE REPORT)

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ABSTRACT :

A male child, 6 years old, presented with a swelling of over 1 year duration on the scalp. swelling had gradually increased in size and had ulcerated. There was sanguinous discharge off and on from the lesion.

EXAMINATION :

Child was anaemie. The local examination showed a cauliflower like mass, 1 1/2" in diameter with ulceration at the top. Its margins were everted and base was indurated. Cervical tymph nodes were not palpable on either sides.

INVESTIGATIONS :

All parameters were normal except for marked anaemia, (Hb-6.8 gm.%). Skull X-rays showed no bony involvement. An incisional biopsy of the mass proved it to be squamous cell carcinoma.



Photographs showing

- (i) Swelling over scalp pre-op.
- (ii) Squamous cell carcinoma.

MANAGEMENT

Patient was given frequent blood transfusions to improve Hb% and was given antimicrobial therapy to control sepsis. He was then subjected to an operation : (Wide local excision and split skin graft). Post operative period was uneventful. A follow up of 3 years after operation showed no sign of local recurrence or distant metastasis.

DISCUSSION :

Squamous Cell Carcinoma is the most common malignancy seen in clinical practice. Scalp, however is a uncommon site and is also rare in childhood. More R.G. et. al (1981). In their series of 163 patients of cutaneous squamous cell carcinoma, the youngest patient was 11 years old. Vaitiekaitis et al (1980) has reported a case of Squamous cell carcinoma in a girl of 6 1/2 years. with Fanconi's anaemia. Sen Gupta et al (1979), in

their analysis found their cases in 5th, 6th and 7th decades.

CONCLUSION :

Squamous cell carcinoma has not yet been reported in a male child of a 6 years. Predisposing factors such as Fanconi's anaemia or Xeroderma Pigmentosum were not present in this case.

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