PAROTID METASTASES AS THE FIRST MANIFESTATION OF PAPILLARY THYROID CARCINOMA. CASE REPORT

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Introduction

Well differentiated thyroid carcinoma is the most common endocrine neoplasm. The incidence is 3000 new cases per year. Papillary carcinoma in Spain accounts for 80% of all thyroid malignancies.

Aim

We report a case of parotid gland metastasis as the first manifestation of an occult papillary carcinoma.

Case report

30 years old man, smoker of 30 cigarettes per day, moderate drinking habits, no other relevant history. Sent to maxillofacial surgery by the appearance of painless swelling in right parotid.

Cervical ultrasound showed a mass compatible with Warthin tumour or pleomorfic adenoma.

FNA pathology shows results of parotid oncocitoma.

Tumour was resected, and pathology revealed parotid with **papillary adenocarcinoma infiltrating intraparotid lymph nodes**. Resection margins were free from disease. Lymphnodes without neoplastic infiltration. This foundings led to endocinology evaluation

Follow up in Endocrinology

Patient denies swelling in his neck Thyroid physical examination was normal, without palpable nodules or lymph nodes. Thyroid ultrasound shows: solid nodule well defined, hypoechoic measuring 4x6x6mm in Left Thyroid Lobule

FNA: suggestive of papillary carcinoma.

Total
thyroidecotmy
and central
neck
dissection
was
performed

lesions. Right thyroid lobule with two foci of papillary carcinoma of 0.4 and 0.1 cm, capsule not infiltrate. Adipose tissue and lymph nodes free of diesease.

Pathology: Left thyroid

lobule without

Ablative dose of 100mCi of I-131 is given.

The patientisasymptomatic on treatment with levothyroxine at dosesof 150mcg waitingforrepeatsurveillancetesting.

Conclusions

Papillarythyroid carcinoma usuallymetastasizes to cervical lymphnodes. Distantmetastases are rare and mostoftenaffect the lungs, liver and bone.

Despite their anatomical proximity, the parotid has not been described to be affected by metastatic papillarythyroid carcinoma. It has been described in medullarythyroid carcinoma, which tends to be a more aggressive tumour.

This case is more unusual, since the thyroid carcinoma waslocated in the leftlobe, while the rightparotidglandwasaffected.