

Nodal and extranodal soft tissue polymorphous hemangioendothelioma: a case report and review of the literature

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ABSTRACT

Background. Polymorphous hemangioendothelioma is a rare vascular tumor of borderline malignant potential and only 10 cases have been described in the literature so far.

Methods and results. We report a case of nodal and extranodal polymorphous hemangioendothelioma and review the literature. A 66-year-old man with an unremarkable past medical history was admitted for a left submandibular mass. The main nodule was composed of angiosarcoma-like areas mixed with angiomatous features; some vascular spaces with hobnail endothelium were seen. The tumor involved two adjacent lymph nodes. Immunohistochemically, the neoplastic cells were strongly positive for CD31 and vimentin. After a few months the tumor recurred and the patient was treated with radiation therapy.

Conclusions. Polymorphous hemangioendothelioma is a distinct entity in the hemangioendothelioma group with its own clinical and histological features.

Key words: lymph node, vascular tumors, polymorphous, hemangioendothelioma.

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Received November 5, 2007;

accepted February 28, 2008.