

The Pathology and Clinical Presentation of Hemangiomas: An Overview of Different Types

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DESCRIPTION

Hemangiomas are benign. Often referred to as “strawberry marks” or “port-wine stains,” they are most commonly found in infants but can occur in people of all ages. Although generally benign, understanding their characteristics, types, causes and treatment options is essential for managing any concerns they may raise.

Hemangiomas

Hemangiomas are vascular abnormalities that can appear anywhere on the body but are most frequently located on the face, scalp and neck. They can present as raised, red or purple lesions and their appearance can change over time. Most hemangiomas develop during the first few weeks of life and grow rapidly before gradually decreases over several years.

Types of hemangiomas

Capillary hemangiomas: These are the most common type and typically appear as bright red lesions that rise from the skin. They consist of small capillaries and are often found on the head and neck.

Cavernous hemangiomas: These are deeper lesions that contain larger blood vessels. They may feel softer and can appear bluish or purple. Cavernous hemangiomas can occur in various organs, including the liver and lungs.

Infantile hemangiomas: These are the most common type seen in infants, characterized by a rapid growth phase followed by gradual involution.

Causes

The exact cause of hemangiomas is not well understood, but several factors may contribute to their development.

Genetics: Family history may play a role, as hemangiomas tend to occur more frequently in certain families.

Prematurity: Babies born prematurely are at a higher risk of developing hemangiomas.

Low birth weight: Infants with a lower birth weight are also more susceptible.

Symptoms and diagnosis

Diagnosis is typically made through a physical examination. In some cases, imaging studies such as ultrasound, Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) or Computed Tomography (CT) scans may be used to assess deeper lesions.

Capillary hemangiomas: These may cause discomfort or pain if they are in a location that experiences friction or pressure.

Cavernous hemangiomas: These can lead to complications if they compress surrounding tissues or organs.

Treatment options

However, intervention may be necessary in certain cases, particularly if the hemangioma is causing functional problems, is located in a sensitive area or has complications. Treatment options include:

Observation: For many hemangiomas, especially those that are not causing issues, monitoring over time is sufficient.

Medications: Propranolol, a beta-blocker, has appear as a treatment option for problematic infantile hemangiomas.

Laser therapy: Laser treatment can be effective for superficial hemangiomas, particularly port-wine stains, to reduce their appearance.

Surgical intervention: In rare cases where hemangiomas are causing significant complications or are extremely affecting, surgical removal may be considered.

CONCLUSION

Hemangiomas are common and generally harmless vascular injury that most often appear in infants. While they typically

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Received: 29-Aug-2024, Manuscript No. JTDR-24-34467; **Editor assigned:** 02-Sep-2024, PreQC No. JTDR-24-34467 (PQ); **Reviewed:** 16-Sep-2024, QC No. JTDR-24-34467; **Revised:** 23-Sep-2024, Manuscript No. JTDR-24-34467 (R); **Published:** 30-Sep-2024, DOI: 10.35248/2684-1258.24.10.236

Citation: Louis M (2024). The Pathology and Clinical Presentation of Hemangiomas: An Overview of Different Types. J Tumor Res. 10:236.

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resolve on their own, understanding their types, causes and treatment options is essential for managing any potential issues. If you notice a hemangioma on yourself or your child, consulting a healthcare professional can provide clarity and guidance on the best course of action. With proper monitoring and treatment when necessary, most individuals with hemangiomas can expect a positive outcome. Many hemangiomas, particularly in children,

tend to resolve on their own over time without the need for intervention. Early diagnosis and monitoring are important to ensure appropriate management, as complications like bleeding, ulceration or interference with vital organs can arise in more problematic cases. unlock the potential of biomarkers, the horizon of modified medicine becomes more assurance.