A Giant Buschke-Löwenstein Tumor

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CLINICAL IMAGE

A 70-year-old man with no notable medical history presented to our department with a huge tumor on his pubic area that had been evolving for over 20 years causing itching and foul smelling discharge. Physical examination revealed a cauliflower-like voluminous tumor on the patient’s pubis with extension to the penoscrotal area and the lower abdomen (Figure 1). A giant condyloma acuminata was suspected and extensive surgical excision was performed. Histopathological examination revealed hyperkeratosis, acanthosis, marked papillomatosis and koilocytes; confirming the diagnosis of Buschke-Löwenstein tumor (Figure 2). There were no features of malignant transformation.

Figure 1: Voluminous tumour on the pubis and genitalia.

Buschke-Löwenstein tumor or giant condyloma acuminatum is a rare sexually transmitted disease, caused by human papillomavirus; genotypes 6 and 11 in most cases. It’s incidence of about 0.1% in the general population, predominantly young men. Clinically it presents as a large, cauliflower-like tumor with papillomatous or verrucous surface. Radical excision of the entire lesion with histopathological examination of the whole lesions is recommended to confirm the diagnosis and detect a malignant transformation. Post-operative surveillance is necessary to identify potential recurrences.

Figure 2: Histologic examination confirming the diagnosis of giant condyloma acuminata.

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CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The authors declare that they have no competing interest.