A Solitary and Synchronous Metastasis of Renal Cell Carcinoma to the Bladder

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We report a case of renal cell carcinoma with solitary metastasis to the bladder which occurred and was treated synchronously. The mode of spread and possible treatment modalities are discussed with relevant information from the literature.

Introduction

Although renal cell carcinoma is known to metastasize to any site in the body, isolated metastasis to the bladder is extremely rare.

To the best of our knowledge, solitary bladder metastasis occurring synchronously with primary renal cell carcinoma was described only once [1]. We herein describe another case in which a primary renal tumour and a solitary metastasis to the bladder were discovered and treated synchronously.

Case report

A 53-year-old man presented with sudden onset of gross painless haematuria lasting for two days. The patient denied any other urological symptoms. Intravenous urogram revealed a 2×2 cm filling defect in the right lateral wall of the bladder and upper calyceal distortion in the left kidney. CT scan of the chest, abdomen and pelvis revealed a 90 mm mass in the upper pole of the left kidney and a 20×16 cm solid mass in the right lateral wall of the bladder (Fig. 1). There was no evidence of any other metastasis. Radionuclide bone scan was also normal. The patient underwent left radical nephrectomy and the actively bleeding sessile mass in the bladder was resected transurethrally. The postoperative period was uneventful and the patient was discharged on the seventh postoperative day.

Pathological examination revealed a renal cell carcinoma, clear cell type, without invasion of the renal capsule, vascular structures, collecting system and upper ureter. The pathological specimen obtained from the bladder included neoplastic cells only, with no evidence of mucosal lining. These carcinoma...
Fig. 1. CT scan with intravenous contrast medium. (a) Left renal mass, (b) sessile mass in the right lateral wall of the bladder