Parameatal Urethral Cyst

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Key Word

Urethral cyst

Abstract

A rare case of a cyst of the outer urethral orifice in a 35-year-old female is presented. The etiology is discussed.

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Introduction

Only 20 parameatal urethral cysts have been reported so far in the literature [Hill and Handley Ashken, 1977]. The first report was by Thompson and Lantin [1956]. Most of the patients were males. The cyst occurred most frequently in the middle-aged adult.

Case Report

Three weeks before presentation a 35-year-old female has started feeling a growth at the outer urethral orifice. A gynecological examination yielded negative results. The outer urethral orifice was found slightly deformed with a 1- to 1.5-cm smooth spherical tumor pushing the distal left lateral circumference of the orifice. The cyst was fully covered with mucosa (fig. 1). It was excised as a whole and contained yellow opaque liquid. Microscopical finding showed pavement epithelium lining (fig. 2). No complications were encountered during postoperative care.

Discussion

The exact etiology of the cyst is not known. Shiraky [1975] supposes the cause to be a blockade of the para-urethral ducts, Hill and Handley Ashken [1977] an infection, especially a chronic one. Trauma is not considered as an etiological factor.

Fig. 1. Parameatal cyst with urethral catheter.

Fig. 2. Histological appearance of the parameatal cyst.

Cysts are formed at the lateral circumference of the meatus. They may be filled with clear or opaque liquid. The inner wall may be lined with columnar, pavement or transitional epithelia [Hill and Handley Ashken, 1977].

Differentially diagnostic difficulties may occur in the diagnosis of this rare disease as it may resemble inflammatory changes of the outer meatus, prolapses and duplicatures and urological examination should, therefore, be completed with urography, urethroscopy and urethrog-raphy.

The therapy of the cyst is surgical (complete excision).

References