

Superficial anorectal abscess resembling a lipoma: A case report

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Abstract

Perianal abscesses exist in various forms depending on the location. Clinical examination and endorectal ultrasound (EUS) may be useful for the diagnosis of anal tumor.

KEYWORDS

lipoma-like abscess, superficial perianal abscess

Perianal abscesses exist in various forms depending on the location. In the present case, lipoma-like abscess was observed.

A 34-year-old Japanese man with no relevant medical history presented to our outpatient clinic with the chief complaint of anal pain. On examination, he was found to have a

soft perianal tumor that resembled a lipoma (Figure 1). We decided to perform surgical resection under spinal saddle block anesthesia in the lithotomy position. Operative findings and examination of the resected specimen revealed that



FIGURE 1 Perianal soft tumor



FIGURE 2 Surgically resected specimen. Pathological findings: benign cystic tissue. Diagnosis: anal fistula

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the tumor included yellow fluid. The tumor was diagnosed as anal fistula, and not a lipoma (Figure 2).

Deep perianal abscesses are often diagnosed not by inspection but by palpation. In addition, superficial perianal abscesses can be diagnosed by visual inspection.^{1,2} However, in our case, the abscess was relatively superficial in the perianal area with the shape of a soft tumor, similar to that of a lipoma.

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CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

HK: drafted the manuscript and performed the surgery. HT: participated in the surgery. HT, YN, and HY: revised the manuscript. HK, HT, YS, YN, and HY: read and approved the final manuscript.

CONSENT

Informed consent was obtained from the patient for the publication of this clinical image.

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