



SCIENTIFIC LETTER

High-grade undifferentiated pleomorphic cardiac sarcoma: A rare malignant primary cardiac tumor mimicking double mitral lesion

Sarcoma cardíaco pleomórfico indiferenciado de alto grado: un tumor cardíaco maligno primario que simula una doble lesión mitral

Juan C. Espinoza-Cobos¹, Sergio Ortiz-Obregón¹, Enrique Blanco-Lemus², Gerardo Gutiérrez-Tovar¹, Luis E. Santos-Martínez³, and Luis A. Moreno-Ruiz⁴*

¹Surgical Intensive Care Unit; ²Department of Pathology; ³Department of Pulmonary Hypertension Clinic and Right Ventricle; ⁴Adult Valvular, Degenerative and Congenital Heart Diseases. Hospital de Cardiología, Centro Médico Nacional Siglo XXI, IMSS, Mexico City, Mexico

The high-grade undifferentiated pleomorphic cardiac sarcoma (UPS) is the second most common primary malignancy in the heart; usually remains asymptomatic, until they produce a mass effect or embolization. A 47-year-old female previously healthy was admitted for a 7-day history of progressive dyspnea. At physical examination, there was mitral regurgitant murmur Grade III and bilateral crepitation rales; the electrocardiogram detected sinus tachycardia (Fig. 1A) and X-ray showed Grade II venocapillary hypertension and pleural effusion (Fig. 1B). The echocardiogram revealed an intracardiac mass in the left atrium of 36 mm × 48 mm, protruding through the mitral valve, conditioning moderate stenosis and severe insufficiency (Fig. 1C-E). Surgical treatment was realized with resection of the tumor, partial resection of the posterior wall of both atrial and interatrial septum, and mitral commissuroplasty. The histological sections showed a solid-appearing neoplastic proliferative lesion with lax isolated areas of myxoid appearance, short cellular bundles, and branched vessels with extensive myocardial

infiltration and infiltration of the valvular tissue (Fig. 2A-C). Thoracoabdominopelvic tomography showed no evidence of metastatic disease. Treatment was started with chemotherapy, but she had progressive deterioration and died 3 months later. Cardiac sarcoma has an incidence of ~ 1.7% of cases; survival at 10 years is 90% in low-grade sarcomas, 60% with intermediate grade, and 20% with high degree¹. The treatment is surgical resection followed by chemotherapy², however, the invasive nature of UPS makes it difficult to obtain surgical margins without tumor activity, associated with relapse and poor short-term prognosis³.

Funding

None.

Conflicts of interest

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

Correspondence:

*Luis A. Moreno-Ruiz

E-mail: luismorenomd@hotmail.com

Date of reception: 28-06-2020

Date of acceptance: 09-09-2020

DOI: 10.24875/ACM.20000320

Available online: 02-07-2021
Arch Cardiol Mex (Eng). 2021;91(3):388-390
www.archivoscardiologia.com

1405-9940 / © 2020 Instituto Nacional de Cardiología Ignacio Chávez. Published by Permanyer. This is an open access article under the CC BY-NC-ND license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/).

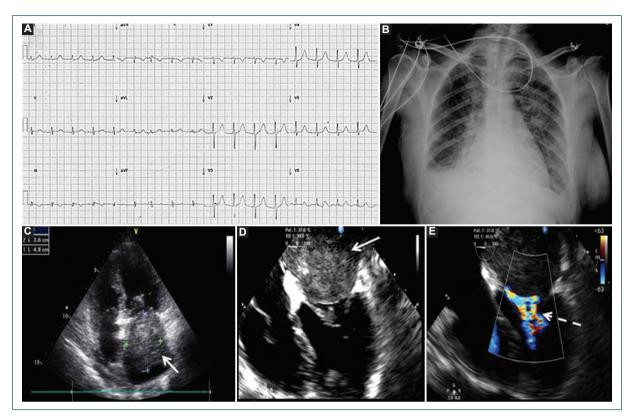


Figure 1. Electrocardiogram and multimodality imaging approach of undifferentiated pleomorphic cardiac sarcoma. **A:** 12-lead electrocardiogram shows sinus tachycardia; **B:** chest X-ray with Grade II venocapillary hypertension and pleural effusion; **C:** four chambers image by transthoracic echocardiogram, showing intracardiac mass (arrow) located in the left atrium; **D:** transesophageal echocardiogram confirms mass in the left atrium (solid arrow) adhered to the posterior wall of 48 mm × 34 mm and **E:** Doppler color showed obstruction of the left ventricle inflow tract (dashed arrow).

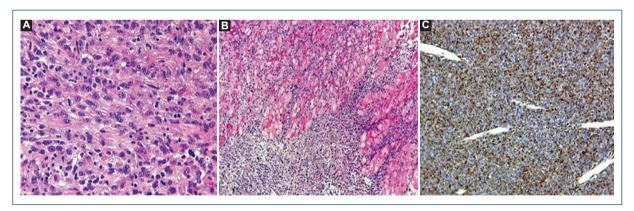


Figure 2. Histological sections of undifferentiated pleomorphic cardiac sarcoma. **A:** the neoplastic cells have an epithelioid or spindle cell appearance with pleomorphic nuclei, atypical mitosis, and scarce lymphocytic infiltrate (HE, $400 \times$); **B:** extensive myocardial infiltration is shown by pleomorphic neoplasm with a solid pattern (HE, $100 \times$); **C:** immunohistochemical staining with positive cytoplasmic anti-vimentin antibody (ocher color) in most of the neoplastic cells ($100 \times$). HE: Hematoxylin-eosin.

Ethical disclosures

Protection of human and animal subjects. The authors declare that no experiments were performed on humans or animals for this study.

Confidentiality of data. The authors declare that they have followed the protocols of their work center on the publication of patient data.

Right to privacy and informed consent. The authors have obtained the written informed consent of the

patients or subjects mentioned in the article. The corresponding author is in possession of this document.

References

- Ostrowski S, Marcinkiewicz A, Kosmider A, Jaszewski R. Sarcomas of the heart as a difficult interdisciplinary problem. Arch Med Sci. 2014;10:135-48.
- Isambert N, Ray-Coquard I, Italiano A, Rios M, Kerbrat P, Gauthier M, et al. Primary cardiac sarcomas: a retrospective study of the French sarcoma group. Eur J Cancer. 2014;50:128-36.
- Li H, Yang S, Chen H, Yang Z, Hong T, Hou Y, et al. Survival after heart transplantation for non-metastatic primary cardiac sarcoma. J Thorac Cardiovasc Surg. 2016;11:145.