BENIGN SUPRACLAVICULAR TUMOROUS LYMPHANGIECTASIA: A NEW DISEASE?

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ABSTRACT

We describe an isolated recurrent non-inflammatory tumorous swelling of the supraclavicular fossa in four premenopausal women. Ultrasonography, magnetic resonance imaging and computer tomography of the neck each suggested an inhomogeneous mass consistent with "lymphangioma." In each patient the clinical course and histopathologic findings suggested that the swellings were due to chronic localized lymph stasis with subsequent lymphangiectasia, possibly initiated by intermittent obstruction of the juncture of the thoracic or right lymph duct with the internal jugular vein. Enlargement may have been hormonally triggered by estrogens as each woman was taking oral contraceptive pills at the onset of the disease. To describe this unique entity, we have termed the disorder benign supraclavicular tumorous lymphangiectasia.