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Poster Abstracts

Epithelioid angiosarcoma: Use of angiographic embolisation and radiotherapy to control recurrent haemorrhage.

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Aims:

A rare case of a pelvic epithelioid angiosarcoma is presented.

Methods:

A 75 year old male with a past medical history of radiotherapy treated prostate carcinoma 5 years previously, presented with a large painful buttock swelling.

Results:

Imaging investigations suggested the lesion was a soft tissue sarcoma and an incisional biopsy confirmed a diagnosis of this rare variant of angiosarcoma but resulted in profuse intra-operative bleeding from a large vascular lake. This required emergency angiography and embolisation and ultimately radiotherapy to help control intra- and post-operative haemorrhage.

Conclusion:

Epithelioid angiosarcoma is a rare, highly malignant tumour with a poor prognosis. The above case report highlights a potentially life threatening complication of undertaking an incision biopsy on a soft tissue tumour, namely surgically uncontrollable haemorrhage from an unsuspected vascular lake. The case report demonstrates the value of interventional radiology for acute bleeding and radiotherapy for more chronic tumour bleeding.

The case is discussed and the literature reviewed.