PUFF THE MAGIC DRAGON

AN UNUSUAL CASE OF A PUFFY FACE

MA ACP Annual Scientific Meeting
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WAIT, MAGIC DRAGONS?
PRESENTATION

53 year old female from Dominican Republic
Reported a lump, left side of forehead, a week before presentation

Rapidly increased in size, pain and tenderness
REVIEW OF SYSTEMS

**Constitutional**: No fever, night sweats, sleep abnormalities, fatigue, malaise or lethargy.

**Head and neck**: Forehead lump, no trauma or bites, headache or neck swelling.

**Vision**: No vision loss, eye pain, double vision, redness, discharge.

**ENT**: No hearing loss, nasal pain or discharge, dysphagia, ulcers.

**Gastrointestinal**: No nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain, blood in stools or dark-colored stools.

**Chest/CVS**: No chest pain, wheezing, shortness of breath, anxiety, palpitations, orthopnea, PND or foot swelling.

**Musculoskeletal**: No muscle ache, joint pain, stiffness, swelling or limitation of mobility.

**Neurological**: No loss of consciousness, fainting, confusion, memory loss, fatigue, malaise or seizures.
PAST MEDICAL HISTORY

Chronic sinusitis for many years
Migraine headaches
Left trapezius abscess (drained in ED)
Negative PPD few years ago
SOCIAL HISTORY

Immigrated from Dominican Republic a few years ago.
Lives at home with her family.
Occasional alcohol use.
No smoking or drug use.
Independent in her daily activities.
HOME MEDICATIONS

Multivitamins
Acetaminophen/Butalbital/Caffeine PRN
PRESENTING LABS

INR 1.0
ESR 16
CRP 19.86
UA clear

Neutrophils 75%
Lymphocytes 21%
No bands
PHYSICAL EXAMINATION

**Vitals:** 98.4°F, HR 73, RR 18, BP 164/96mm/hg, 95% RA, No acute distress

**Inspection:** 3cm x 3cm smooth round mass with smooth borders. No skin break, ulcer or discoloration.

**Palpation:** Puffy, smooth, non pulsatile, minimally mobile mass with mild to moderate tenderness, no warmth.

**Eyes:** No eyelid swelling, limitation of EOMs or visual field loss. Normal pupillary reflexes.
**PHYSICAL EXAMINATION**

**Head:** Lump as described, normocephalic, atraumatic, No cervical LNE.

**Cranial nerves:** grossly within normal limits.

**Chest:** clear to auscultation bilaterally. No added sounds.

**CVS:** S₁, S₂ is normal. No murmurs, rubs or gallops.

**Abdomen:** soft, nontender, nondistended. No organomegaly, normal bowel sounds.

**MS:** There is no obvious joint deformity, limitation or swelling.

**Neuro:** No motor/sensory deficits, reflexes brisk.

**Extremities:** No pedal edema, cyanosis or varicosities.
NEXT MORNING

Sudden onset puffiness and discomfort of the forehead, eyelids and cheeks.
SURGERIES PERFORMED

2. Obliteration and cranialization of frontal sinuses.
Scalp flap (reflected anteriorly)
Frontal bone flap: Removal
Frontal bone flap
Erosion through the posterior table
Intracranial cavity
Frontal bone flap: inner surface

Frontal Sinus: exposed

Material removed from frontal sinus
Frontal bone flap: inner surface

Post cranialization of frontal sinuses
Frontal bone flap: Outer surface

Metal plate covering the defect in the anterior table of the frontal sinus
Frontal bone flap: Re-attached
POST SURGICAL COURSE

Patient responded well post surgery. No complications.
POST SURGICAL COURSE

Mass biopsy:
Chronic
inflammatory
changes.

No malignant cells.
POST SURGICAL COURSE

Culture
Microaerophilic streptococci
Haemophilus parainfluenzae

Antibiotic therapy
6 week IV ceftriaxone
POTT’S PUFFY TUMOR

Misnomer (not a tumor)

Infected complication of frontal sinusitis
POTT’S PUFFY TUMOR

Obstructed frontal sinusitis erodes through the anterior wall of the sinus to form subperiosteal or subgaleal collection

Creates a puffy lump in the forehead

http://www.aafp.org/afp/2008/1015/p953.html
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THANK YOU

Thank

George M. Abraham, MD, MPH, FACP
QUESTIONS?