

Melorheostosis of Ring-finger: A case report.

S Bashir, I Wani, Y fayaz, T Morton, A Salaria, R Gupta

Citation

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Abstract

Melorheostosis, a rare mesenchymal dysplasia, is one of the sclerosing bone disorders. It is a developmental error, involving frequently one limb. It may be asymptomatic or symptoms like pain, stiffness, limitation of movement, leg length discrepancy, and limb deformity may occur. On plain radiograph, melorheostosis shows cortical hyperostosis resembling flowing candle wax. It occurs due to loss-of-function mutation in LEMD3 gene. We report a case of melorheostosis in a 16 year old girl presenting with a 4 year history of progressively increasing swelling along with intermittent pain in the ring-finger. Radiograph and computed tomography show findings characteristic of melorheostosis. An excisional biopsy along with bone grafting was done and patient is doing well after physiotherapy.

CASE REPORT

A 16 year old female with average socio-economic status presented to the out-patient department with a 4 year history of progressively increasing swelling and intermittent dull ache in the ring finger of the right hand. She had no similar swelling in any other part of her body. There was no history of paraesthesia or restriction of movement. There were no similar complaints in the family. On examination swelling was 3x2.5 cm. in size, firm to hard in consistency with no restriction of movements.(fig.1)

Figure 1

Photographs showing the swelling in the ring finger. Figure 1.



Antero-posterior and lateral radiograph show dense bone formation involving more than half of the proximal phalanx, with a flowing, slightly expansile margin along its ulnar aspect.(fig. 2)

Figure 2

A.P. and lateral Radiographs showing candle wax appearance in the proximal phalanx of ring finger . Figure 2.



Computed tomography of hand shows findings identical to those on shown on radiograph i.e. cortical hyperostosis with thickening resembling candle wax.(fig 3)

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Author Information

Sheikh Irfan Bashir, M.B.BS

Postgraduate Scholar Orthopaedics, Government Medical College Jammu

Iftikhar Hussain Wani, M.B.B.S.

Postgraduate Scholar Orthopaedics, Government Medical College Jammu

Yasir fayaz, M.B.B.S.

Postgraduate Scholar Orthopaedics, Government Medical College Jammu

Tarseem Morton, M.S. (Ortho)

Senior Resident, Postgraduate Department of Orthopaedics, Government Medical College Jammu

A.Q. Salaria, M.S. (Ortho)

Associate professor, Postgraduate Department of Orthopaedics, Government Medical College Jammu

Rajesh Gupta, M.S.(Ortho)

Lecturer, Postgraduate Department of Orthopaedics, Government Medical College Jammu