

Incidentally discovered capillary hemangioma of the prostate

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We present the case of a 69-year-old male with incidentally discovered capillary hemangiomas at radical prostatectomy.

Hemangiomas of genitourinary origin are extremely rare, typically benign vascular tumors. This finding represents the first reported hemangioma within a radical prostatectomy specimen..

Key Words: capillary hemangioma, prostate cancer, radical prostatectomy

Introduction

Hemangiomas are vascular tumors comprised of a benign endothelial proliferation. They are most commonly found during infancy as cutaneous, hepatic, or gastrointestinal lesions.¹ Their presence within the genitourinary system is rare. We report a case of a 69-year-old male who underwent radical prostatectomy for elevated PSA and biopsy-proven adenocarcinoma of

the prostate. Pathology revealed capillary hemangiomas within the radical prostatectomy specimen.

Case report

We present the case of an otherwise healthy 69-year-old male who presented with an elevated PSA of 7.6 ng/mL on routine screening. He denied hematuria and significant genitourinary symptoms. Prostate biopsy revealed Gleason 3 + 3 = 6 prostate adenocarcinoma in 1/12 cores, and the patient underwent an uncomplicated open radical retropubic prostatectomy. Microscopic examination of the prostatectomy specimen revealed Gleason 3 + 4 = 7 prostate adenocarcinoma, 0/7 positive lymph nodes, and capillary hemangiomas, Figure 1. At 8 years of follow up, his PSA remains undetectable.

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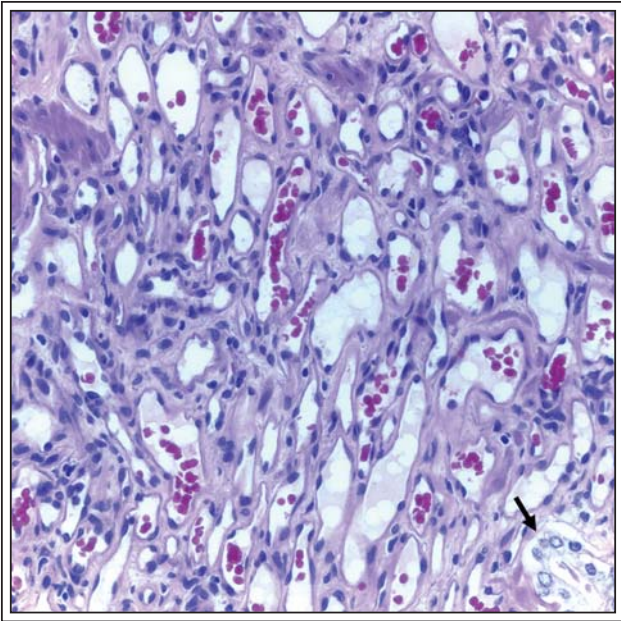


Figure 1. Capillary hemangioma, incidentally discovered during histological evaluation of the prostate. The section shows multiple intertwining small capillary-sized vessels lined by endothelium with relatively flat or plump nuclei. The proliferating vessels were adjacent to a focus of prostatic adenocarcinoma, Gleason score 3 + 4 = 7. Note one neoplastic prostatic gland at the bottom left edge of the image (arrow).

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Discussion

Hemangiomas are typically benign vascular tumors encountered very rarely in the lower genitourinary tract. They have been described in the posterior urethra in conjunction with hematuria and hematospermia.^{2,3} There are reports within the pediatric population of bladder hemangiomas as a rare cause of gross hematuria.⁴⁻⁶ Although capillary hemangiomas generally represent benign neoplasms, their rarity within the prostate precludes further comment on clinical significance. Theoretically, they could present problems at prostate biopsy with excessive hemorrhage, though this has not been reported. To our knowledge, this represents the first reported case of capillary hemangioma discovered incidentally at radical prostatectomy. □

References

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