Nonossifying Fibroma of Rib

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Nonossifying fibroma is usually an asymptomatic benign lesion seen in the first 2 decades of life, occurring commonly in the long bones of lower extremities. Biopsy is required for symptomatic lesions and for those that develop in unusual sites and outside the usual age of presentation [1]. Histologically, there are no neoplastic features. It is considered to be a developmental bony defect that is usually self-limiting, with spontaneous resolution [2].

A 48-year-old man was admitted for left side back pain. His pain had been present since he was 15 years old but had progressed and become unbearable during the last 6 months. Radiologic evaluation revealed an expansile bone lesion on the posterior aspect of the left 10th rib (Fig 1A, negative image of chest; 1B, left lateral three-dimensional view of thorax). A subtotal 10th rib resection was performed. Pathologic examination revealed a nonossifying fibroma with clear surgical margins (Fig 2A, macrophages and spindle cells forming crossing fibers underneath the bone tissue [hematoxylin and eosin, magnification ×40]; Fig 2B, spindle cells without significant atypia or mitosis [hematoxylin and eosin, magnification ×200]). The postoperative course was uneventful, pain improved after the operation, and a 10-month follow-up showed no recurrence.

References


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