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VERTEBRAL METASTASIS IN A CASE OF CARCINOMA BREAST CLINICALLY STAGE IA: A RARE FINDING

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INTRODUCTION

Breast cancer is overall the most common cancer in females. It accounts for 08.4-31.5 % of total cancer incidence in females.^[1] In western countries breast cancer is most commonly diagnosed in local stage (I)^[2], however in India it mostly presents as stage III/IV.^[3] These patients usually present with breast lump which may or may not be tender, nipple discharge and / or nipple retraction. We present a case who presented with back pain and on further evaluation diagnosed to be a case of breast cancer with bone metastases with no involvement of nodes or any other organs.

CASE REPORT

A 55 years old female with no history of addiction and no family history of carcinoma presented with complains of low back ache of 6 months duration. MRI - Lumbo Sacral spine was done and raised suspicion of myeloproliferative disease (FIG: 1). Serum protein electrophoresis was negative for M – band spike, ruling out Multiple Myeloma. Bone marrow biopsy and immuno-histochemistry showed "metastatic carcinoma, likely adenocarcinoma" (FIG: 2). Mammography showed a tiny (< 1 cm) BIRADS category 4 lesion in right breast while left breast was normal (FIG: 3). USG guided FNAC was performed and it showed Atypical Ductal hyperplasia. USG guided biopsy showed Infiltrating Duct Cell carcinoma - Grade II (FIG: 4) which was ER positive, PR negative and Her 2neu FISH positive. Metastatic workup showed only bone metastasis.



Sagital view of whole spine screening (FIG:1A and T2 weighted image of lumbo-sacral spine (FIG:1B) showing diffuse altered signal intensity in the vertebral bodies and sacrum with partial loss of height of L1, L2 and L5 vertebral bodies ----? Myeloproliferative Disease

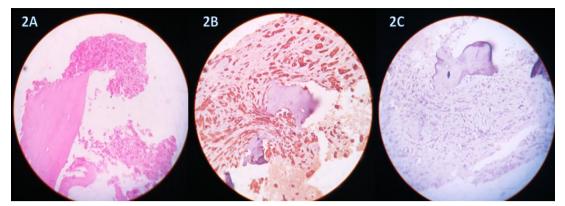


FIG2: Bone marrow biopsy and IHC sowed bony trabeculae, fibrosis with foci of markedly dysplastic epithelial cells showing glandular and trabecular pattern (FIG: 2A), CK 7 positivity (FIG: 2B) and CK 20 negativity (FIG: 2C). Findings were suggestive of metastatic carcinoma, likely adenocarcinoma

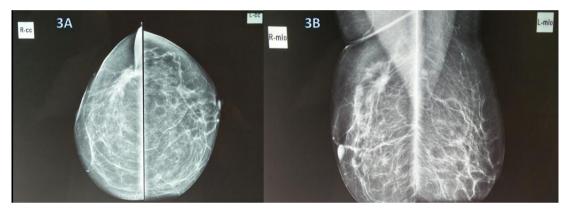


FIG : 3. CC (FIG 3A) and MLO (FIG 3B) views of mammogram show a tiny (<1 cm sized) BIRADS 4 lesion in right breast

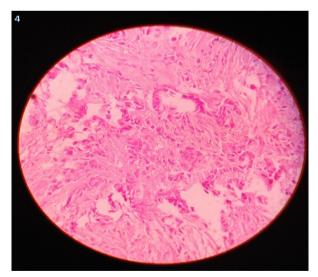


FIG: 4. Biopsy from breast lesion showed infiltrating duct cell carcinoma grade II

DISCUSSION

Bone-only metastatic breast cancer was first described in the 1970s and 1980s.^[4] Bone-only metastasis has been reported to occur in 0.5% - 3% of women at the time of diagnosis of breast cancer.^[5,6]

Features that are associated with metastatic disease in T1N0 breast cancer are young age, grade, lobular histology, hormone receptor negativity, Older age (>80) and black race.^[5]

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