

Non-gestational Choriocarcinoma: A Rare Gynaecological Cancer

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ABSTRACT

This case illustrates a 52 year old, Para 3 Chinese lady, who presented with heavy menstrual bleeding for 12 months. Examination revealed a 16 week size uterus. Ultrasound of the pelvis revealed an intracavitational uterine mass, measuring about 5 x 8 cm, with the base extending less than ½ of the myometrium. Her serum beta hCG was more than 400000 iu/L and kept increasing to more than 600000 iu/L over a 2week duration. Hysteroscopic examination revealed an elongated intrauterine growth. A biopsy was taken from the growth and histopathology examination result confirmed the diagnosis of non-gestational choriocarcinoma. Her whole body CT scan did not reveal any metastasis. The patient underwent a laparotomy with total abdominal hysterectomy with bilateral oophorectomy. A firm polypoidal mass was noted arising from the fundus of the uterus upon cutting the uterus. The second histopathology examination was consistent with non-gestational choriocarcinoma. This is the first of such case encountered in our center.

Quality of Life of Gynaecology Patients and Family Caregivers

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ABSTRACT

Objectives: Cancer survivors have been known to have a chronic illness trajectory. The disease does not only affect the individuals diagnosed with it, but it also has major impact to the family members and relatives especially the caregivers in various aspects. **Methods:** This was a cross sectional study conducted over six months duration from 1st November 2017 to 30th April 2018. The study population consisted of all gynaecology patients and family caregivers in gynaecology clinic and ward in UKMMC. Two questionnaires; EQ-5D-5L questionnaire English version and SF-36 English version was used to assess the general health of both the patients and caregivers. **Results:** There were 203 pairs of patients and caregivers recruited in this study. The median age (years) for patients and caregivers was 63.0 and 41.0 respectively. Most of the patients were diagnosed to have endometrial cancer (41.4%) followed by ovarian cancer (31.5%), cervical cancer (21.2%) and others (6.0%). When compared, all the 8 domains of SF-36 between patients and caregivers, both were affected but the domains of physical functioning, role limitation due to physical health, energy, pain and general health were statistically significantly different between the two groups ($p < 0.000$). **Conclusions:** This study demonstrated that Health Related Quality of Life for both gynaecology patients and their caregivers were markedly diminished. Although management of gynaecological cancer has improved over the past few decades, other therapeutic approaches are needed to improve their QOL and for the caregiver as well.