High-grade undifferentiated pleomorphic cardiac sarcoma: A rare malignant primary cardiac tumor mimicking double mitral lesion

Sarcoma cardíaco pleomórfico indiferenciado de alto grado: un tumor cardíaco maligno primario que simula una doble lesión mitral

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The high-grade undifferentiated pleomorphic cardiac sarcoma (UPS) is the second most common primary malignancy in the heart; usually remains asymptomatic, until they produce a mass effect or embolization. A 47-year-old female previously healthy was admitted for a 7-day history of progressive dyspnea. At physical examination, there was mitral regurgitant murmur Grade III and bilateral crepitation rales; the electrocardiogram detected sinus tachycardia (Fig. 1A) and X-ray showed Grade II venocapillary hypertension and pleural effusion (Fig. 1B). The echocardiogram revealed an intracardiac mass in the left atrium of 36 mm × 48 mm, protruding through the mitral valve, conditioning moderate stenosis and severe insufficiency (Fig. 1C-E). Surgical treatment was realized with resection of the tumor, partial resection of the posterior wall of both atrial and interatrial septum, and mitral commissuroplasty. The histological sections showed a solid-appearing neoplastic proliferative lesion with lax isolated areas of myxoid appearance, short cellular bundles, and branched vessels with extensive myocardial

infiltration and infiltration of the valvular tissue (Fig. 2A-C). Thoracoabdominopelvic tomography showed no evidence of metastatic disease. Treatment was started with chemotherapy, but she had progressive deterioration and died 3 months later. Cardiac sarcoma has an incidence of ~ 1.7% of cases; survival at 10 years is 90% in low-grade sarcomas, 60% with intermediate grade, and 20% with high degree¹. The treatment is surgical resection followed by chemotherapy², however, the invasive nature of UPS makes it difficult to obtain surgical margins without tumor activity, associated with relapse and poor short-term prognosis³.

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Conflicts of interest

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

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Figure 1. Electrocardiogram and multimodality imaging approach of undifferentiated pleomorphic cardiac sarcoma. **A:** 12-lead electrocardiogram shows sinus tachycardia; **B:** chest X-ray with Grade II venocapillary hypertension and pleural effusion; **C:** four chambers image by transthoracic echocardiogram, showing intracardiac mass (arrow) located in the left atrium; **D:** transesophageal echocardiogram confirms mass in the left atrium (solid arrow) adhered to the posterior wall of 48 mm × 34 mm and **E:** Doppler color showed obstruction of the left ventricle inflow tract (dashed arrow).

Figure 2. Histological sections of undifferentiated pleomorphic cardiac sarcoma. **A:** the neoplastic cells have an epithelioid or spindle cell appearance with pleomorphic nuclei, atypical mitosis, and scarce lymphocytic infiltrate (HE, 400 ×); **B:** extensive myocardial infiltration is shown by pleomorphic neoplasm with a solid pattern (HE, 100 ×); **C:** immunohistochemical staining with positive cytoplasmic anti-vimentin antibody (ocher color) in most of the neoplastic cells (100 ×). HE: Hematoxylin-eosin.

Ethical disclosures

Protection of human and animal subjects. The authors declare that no experiments were performed on humans or animals for this study.

Confidentiality of data. The authors declare that they have followed the protocols of their work center on the publication of patient data.

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