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The agony of uncertainty: Smooth muscle tumor of uncertain malignant potential

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Smooth Muscle Tumor of Uncertain Malignant Potential (STUMP) is a rare mesenchymal uterine tumor that is neither benign nor malignant. Its cause and risk factors remain unknown. Its clinical behavior is unpredictable, and the cornerstone of management is observation. Presented is a case of STUMP in a 47-year-old woman who had sought consult due to abdominal enlargement of two months' duration. Physical examination revealed a huge pelvo-abdominal mass extending from the hypogastric area up to the level of the umbilicus. The patient went into surgery for what was initially presumed to be a malignant ovarian new growth. Intra-operatively, however, there was no visible ovarian pathology. Instead, the uterus was noted to be enlarged to five months size, with an irregular tumor on the fundal area measuring approximately 9 x 7 x 5 cm and invading more than half of the myometrium on cut section. A post-operative diagnosis of Leiomyosarcoma was made. However, the final histopathology report revealed a STUMP.

Immunostaining for KI-67 further confirmed the diagnosis. The patient was advised to follow up after three months for close monitoring. On follow-up, ultrasound revealed the presence of an encysted fluid measuring 4 x 4.1 x 3.4 cm at the left adnexal area. Ultrasound-guided aspiration biopsy was done, which revealed chronic inflammatory pattern. The patient was advised to continue regular follow-ups every six months. This is the first case of STUMP reported at our institution.

Speaker Biography

Dineth Adrienne C Gutierrez is a resident trainee in Obstetrics and Gynecology at Mary Johnston Hospital in Manila, Philippines. She obtained her undergraduate degree in Bachelor of Science in Psychology at De La Salle University-Manila and her Doctor of Medicine degree from Pamantasan ng Lungsod ng Maynila College of Medicine.

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