

Primary cardiac sarcoidosis causing sudden death: A case report

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The occurrence of unanticipated death of a young person is traumatic to the family and calls for thorough evaluation. In recent years, sudden cardiac deaths have been increasing in all age groups. Cardiomyopathies and congenital heart diseases are the commonest cause of death in young individuals. Here we report a case of young boy who suffered a sudden death. A 16 years old boy complained of headache and discomfort. He had no similar complaints in the past. He went to bed early that day and was found dead the next day morning. The body was subjected to post mortem examination. There were no positive findings on external examination. Internal examination also revealed no significant findings except small nodules on heart. On gross examination, heart showed multiple nodules on the surface. On dissection, similar nodules were seen with in the wall of the left ventricle extending the full thickness of the ventricle wall. H&E stained sections from these nodules showed numerous non caseating granulomas. Special stains for


fungus and acid-fast bacilli were negative. Examination of lung and other organs did not reveal any such granuloma. The case was diagnosed as Primary Cardiac Sarcoidosis.

Isolated Primary Cardiac Sarcoidosis is very rare. Cardiac involvement in sarcoidosis has been reported in up to 30% of patients with sarcoidosis. Diagnosis of cardiac Sarcoidosis is difficult because the symptoms are non-specific and there is no definite non-invasive diagnostic modality. These patients most commonly suffer from conduction abnormalities like ventricular fibrillation causing sudden death.

Speaker Biography

Sunethri Padma is presently working as Assistant professor at Gandhi medical College, Hyderabad, India. She had done her masters in Pathology from Osmania Medical College and presently pursuing PhD in pathology. Her fields of interest are gynaecological pathology and Gastrointestinal, tract pathology. Her PhD dissertation work is also on Gastrointestinal pathology. She shows remarkable interest in teaching and other academic activities.

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