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Pilar Cyst in a 57-Year-Old Male: A Case Report

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Abstract

Background:

Pilar cysts, also known as trichilemmal cysts, are common benign cutaneous lesions derived from the outer root sheath of hair follicles. Frequently located on the scalp, they are often asymptomatic but may present with cosmetic concerns or complications such as infection or rupture. Due to their clinical similarity to epidermoid cysts, accurate diagnosis requires careful examination and histopathological confirmation.

Case Presentation:

We report the case of a 57-year-old male presenting with a gradually enlarging, painless swelling over the right parietal scalp region. Clinical examination revealed a well-defined, mobile, soft, non-tender **sessile swelling**. Histopathological analysis confirmed the diagnosis of a pilar cyst, characterized by Parakeratinized stratified squamous epithelium with diminished granular layer and abrupt keratinization.

Management and Outcome:

As the cyst was stable and asymptomatic, surgical excision under local anaesthesia was performed to prevent future complications and for definitive diagnosis. Complete excision with the cyst wall intact is emphasized to prevent recurrence. The patient recovered uneventfully with no signs of infection or recurrence on follow-up.

Conclusion:

Pilar cysts are benign but may pose diagnostic and management challenges if misidentified or left untreated. Proper clinical evaluation, patient education, and timely surgical intervention are key to effective management. Histopathology remains essential to differentiate these from other cutaneous cysts and to exclude rare malignant transformations.

Keywords: Trichilemmal cyst, Cyst on Scalp

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