



## UNUSUAL CASE OF UNCONTROLLED HYPERTENTION

## General Surgery

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## ABSTRACT

Pheochromocytomas rare neuroendocrine tumors that arise from chromaffin-cells in the adrenal medulla. Pheochromocytomas have an estimated prevalence of up to 5% of adults presenting with adrenal incidentalomas.

Reported is a case of a 54 Year old patient admitted with, Excessive sweating and giddiness for 20 days, Lower urinary tract symptoms for 15 days, LAB INVESTIGATIONS showed: Norepinephrine Level: 2690 picogram/ml, Metanephrine level: 1276 picogram/ml, 24 hour VMA level: 16.8mg/24 hours, Sr. Cortisol level: 0.4 Microgram/DeciLitre. On examination Blood pressure was raised. Rest examination was normal. RBS-234mg/dl. USG(A+P) -consistent with Pheochromocytoma. CT scan revealed Pheochromocytoma. PET Scan showed left supra-renal mass compatible with Pheochromocytoma. Preoperatively the patient was given Alpha and Beta blockers for 7 days Intraop the patient was on phenoxibenzamine drip. Laparoscopic left adrenalectomy was performed. Postoperatively; B.P and RBS was normal.

## KEYWORDS

Pheochromocytoma, Neuroendocrine Tumor, Metanephrines, Norepinephrine

## CASE SENARIO-A

54 Year old patient was admitted in medicine ward with, Excessive sweating and giddiness since 20 days. Passing excess amount of urine since 15 days and was known diabetic and hypertensive

## Table 1

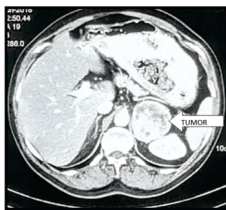
|                      |                          |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| Norepinephrine Level | :2690 picogram/ml        |
| Metanephrine level   | :1276 picogram/ml        |
| 24 hour VMA level    | :16.8mg/24 hours         |
| Sr. Cortisol level   | :0.4 Microgram/DeciLitre |

On examination Blood pressure was 220/110, rest all general and systemic examination was normal.

Lab investigations revealed RBS-234mg/dl

USG(A+P)-well defined rounded to oval heterogenic lesion superomedial to upper pole of left kidney-consistent with Pheochromocytoma.

CT scan was done for the patient which revealed Well defined echogenic hypovascular lesion approx(73x55x39mm) seen in the left para-aortic region and antero-superior to left renal vessels. lesion is solid with few cystic areas, displacing adjacent vessels? Pheochromocytoma



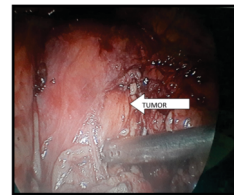
**Figure 1. CT Abdomen with pelvis**

PET Scan was done later which showed weakly metabolic enlarged left supra-renal mass compatible with the diagnosis of Pheochromocytoma.



**Figure 2. PET SCAN showing tumor**

The patient was operated for the same condition. For preop preparation the patient was given Alpha and Beta blockers for 7 days and B.P controlled.



**Figure 3. Intra operative image of tumor**

Intraop the patient was on phenoxibenzamine drip. Laparoscopic left adrenalectomy was performed

## Postoperative status;

B.P-128/78 mm of Hg(normal)  
RBS-102 mg/DL (normal)

The specimen removed was sent for Histopathological examination which showed- Encapsulated tumor arranged in small nests. extensive areas of hemorrhage and focus. no evidence of malignancy/atypia

## DISCUSSION

Pheochromocytomas and paragangliomas (PGGL) are rare neuroendocrine tumors arise from chromaffin-cells in the adrenal medulla and extra-adrenal autonomic ganglia respectively.

Pheochromocytomas account for 80–85% of the chromaffin cell-derived neoplasms.

Paragangliomas are less frequent, accounting for 15–20% of these tumors<sup>1</sup>

Affecting all age groups, however, a peak incidence in the fourth to fifth decade has been reported<sup>2</sup>. sporadic in 70% of the cases or hereditary. Tumors often solitary (90–95%) and only a minority of the patients harbor a malignancy. Up to 95% of these tumors are located within the abdominal cavity, however, PGGL can virtually occur anywhere from the base of the brain to the urinary bladder<sup>3</sup>

Pheochromocytoma causes release of catecholamines which inhibit insulin secretion (resistance) via alpha-2 receptors, accelerate glucagon release, decrease glucose utilization in skeletal muscles and accelerate fat metabolism

Around 50% are asymptomatic and may be either diagnosed incidentally during an imaging procedure not directed to the adrenal (adrenal incidentaloma) or post-mortem<sup>4</sup>

For bilateral Pheochromocytomas, cortical sparing bilateral adrenalectomy is recommended<sup>4</sup>. Genetic testing should be considered for all patients with Pheos and PGGL.

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