



A neck mass in infancy: Fibromatosis colli

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Clinical Image

Description

A 1 month old female infant with right neck mass noticed by her parents about 2 weeks earlier. She was a full term baby, born after instrumented delivery with a birth weight of 3000 g. Physical examination showed focal enlargement of right sternocleidomastoid muscle (Figure 1), firm in consistency and not warm on touch. The mass was partially mobile, and apparently painless. There was no restriction of neck movements. No cervical lymphadenopathy was present. The girl was feeding at the breast, and the body temperature was normal. The routine laboratory tests were normal. Ultrasonography revealed a 40 x 15 mm fusiform hypoechoic thickening of the right sternocleidomastoid muscle, with maintained structure of muscle fibers (Figures 2). The diagnosis of fibromatosis colli was established.

Fibromatosis colli is a rare pseudotumor, a fibromatosis which involves the Sternocleidomastoid muscle. It usually appears in neonates and infants. The etiology of the disease remain unknown, it most likely occurs after any birth trauma

or malpositioning in the intrauterine life. Ultrasonography is the imaging modality of choice for diagnosis. Its management is conservative based on physiotherapy to avoid complication such torticollis. The knowledge of this disease can avoid unnecessary investigations [1].



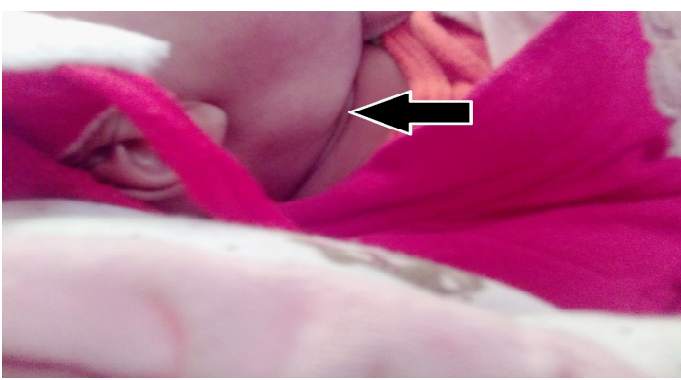


Figure 1: Right neck mass (arrow)

References

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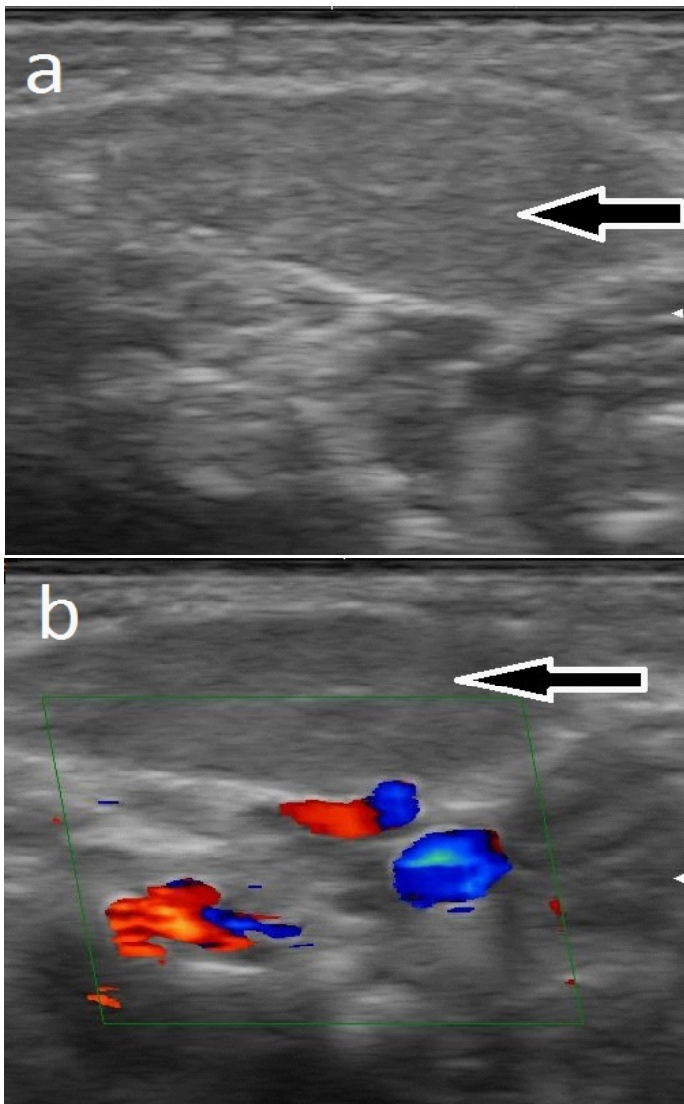


Figure 2: Ultrasonography, axial views of neck : gray scale (a) and with color doppler (b) showing a thickened and fusiform sternocleidomastoid consistent with fibromatosis colli