Rabdomyoma

Rhabdomyoma is a rare, completely benign tumor. It is a variant of rhabdomyosarcoma. Both tumors originate in the mesenchyme, specifically in the striated muscle.[1]

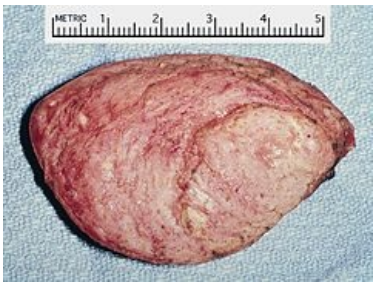
Distribution

The tumor can appear prenatally or postnatally. We therefore distinguish 2 forms:

- **adult**;
- **fetal**.

According to the location of the tumor, we distinguish 2 types:

- **cardiac** (in the heart), may occur in connection with tuberous sclerosis or alone;
- **extracardiac** (soft tissues), head, neck.



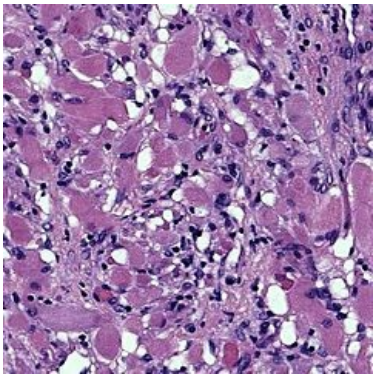
Cardiac rhabdomyoma

Macroscopy

The tumor typically occurs in children under 1 year of age. **Macroscopically**, they appear as **multiple bright nodes** in the myocardium that pass into the heart cavities.

Microscopy

In the microscope we see **large cells** with a large cytoplasm full of **glycogen vacuoles**, between the vacuoles there are thin strips of cytoplasm between the nucleus and the cell membrane - the so-called **spider cells.** In addition, we detect actin and desmin in tumor cells, which proves that the tumor cells have a muscular origin. [1]


Microscopic image of fetal rhabdomyoma

Prognosis

It depends on the extent of the disability. If the child does not die, the nodes regress over time.

Links

Related articles

- Mesenchymal tumors
- Heart tumors
- rhabdomyosarcoma

Reference

1.

References

-

Category: Oncology Category: Internal Medicine Category: Cardiology