## **VASCULAR ANOMALIES OF THE FACE**

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Vascular Anomalies are the abnormal formation or development of blood vessels

affecting capillaries, arteries, veins and lymphatic channels

Vascular anomalies are localized defects of vascular development



# Etiology



Vascular anomalies are histopathologically characterized by a focal increase in the number of vessels that are abnormally tortuous and enlarged<sup>1</sup>.



- 1. Boon LM, Ballieux F, Vikkula M. Pathogenesis of Vascular Anomalies. Clin Plast Surg. 2011 Jan 1; 38(1): 7-19
- 2. Richter GT, Friedman AB. Hemangiomas and Vascular Malformations: Current Theory and Management. Int J Ped. 2012, Article
  - ID 645678, 10 pages



## Classification



#### ISSVA classification for vascular anomalies

Vascular Anomalies									
Vascular Tumors	Vascular Malformations								
	Simple	Combined			Anomalies of major named vessels		Associated with other anomalies		
Benign Locally Aggressive or Border line Malignant	Capillary m. (CM) Lymphatic m. (LM) Venous m. (VM) Arteriovenous m. (AVM) Arteiovenous Fistula (AVF)	CM+VM CM+LM	capillary-venous m. capillary-lymphatic m.	CVM CLM	Affect	lymphatics veins arteries origin course number length diameter (aplasia, hypoplasia, stenosis, ectasia / aneurysm) valves communication (AVF) persistence (of embryonal vessel)	Klippel-Trenaunay syndrome		
		CM+AVM	capillary-arteriovenous m.	CAVM			Parkes Weber syndrome		
		LM+VM	lymphatic-venous m.				syndrome Sturge Weber syndrome		
		VM	venous m.	CLVIN	Anomalies of		Maffucci syndrome		
		CM+LM+ AVM	capillary-lymphatic- arteriovenous m.	CLAVM			Macrocephaly Microcephaly		
		CM+VM+ AVM	capillary-venous- arteriovenous m.	CVAVM			CLOVES syndrome Proteus syndrome		
		CM+LM+ VM+ AVM	capillary-lymphatic- venous-arteriovenous m.	CLVAVM			Bannayan-Riley- Ruvalcaba syndrome		

ISSVA classification for vascular anomalies (Approved at the 20th ISSVA Workshop, Melbourne, April 2014)



#### ISSVA binary classification for vascular anomalies

Vascular Anomalies							
Vascular Tumors	Vascular Malformations						
Hemangioma	Slow Flow	Capillary Lymphatic Venous					
Hemangioendothelioma Angiosarcoma	Fast Flow	Arterial					
	Combined	55					

Mulliken JB, Burrows PE, Fishman SJ. Vascular Anomalies. Hemangiomas and Malformations. Second Edition





FIGURE 11-1 Diagrams illustrating the channel morphology of the most common forms of vascular anomalies. (Reprinted, with permission, Burrows and Fellows, 1995) A. Infantile hemangioma consists of a solid cellular mass with organized, acinar pattern of arterial supply and drainage into dilated regional veins. B. Arteriovenous fistula is focal macroscopic connection between artery and vein. C. Arteriovenous malformation typically consists of a nidus or network of abnormal vascular channels with feeding arteries and draining veins. D. Venous malformation is a post-capillary lesion composed of abnormally shaped, dilated venous channels. Major conducting veins can be involved. E. Lymphatic malformation composed of fluid-filled spaces or channels lined with lymphatic endothelium. Mulliken JB, Burrows PE, Fishman SJ.

Vascular Anomalies. Hemangiomas and Malformations. Second Edition



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# Clinical Manifestation Vascular Tumors



## Infantile Hemangioma

Benign vascular neoplasms

Have a characteristic clinical course marked by

early proliferation and

followed by spontaneous involution.

**PROLIFERATION PHASE** Neonate

Third Trimester Proliferation of primitive cells

**INVOLUTED PHASE** >7 years **Revascularization** Deposition of fat cells **INVOLUTING PHASE** 

1-5 years

Due to Apoptosis

Mast cells interact with macrophages and

fibroblasts = Transgranulation





Cutaneous Hemangioma small/large/extensive Ulcerative/non-ulcerative





Involuting Hemangioma



Involuted Hemangioma



# Clinical Manifestation Vascular Malformations



## **Capillary Malformations**



- Caused by a defect of autonomic nervous system supplying capillaries
- The number of blood vessels are normal, but the diameter of the affected vessels is much larger.
- This enlargement results in increased blood flow.
- Since the vessels are close to the surface, this increased flow gives the skin its pink to purple appearance.
- The affected blood vessels will continue to enlarge and thicken with age, causing the color of the lesion to darken.



## **Venous Malformations**





- Made up of malformed veins
- Vary in color from blue to dark purple, depending on how deep the malformation extends.
- Tend to swell with activity/exercise
- The mass is usually soft and compressible and then refills when released.
- There may be small hard masses palpable in the lesion, called phleboliths, which are small collections of calcium that have resulted from slow blood flow and blood clots.



## Lymphatic Malformations



- Exact cause is unknown. ? Errors in the formation and development of lymphatics during fetal development.
- Made up of abnormal, dilated lymph channels that can be focal or diffuse.
- Increase in size with infection such as upper respiratory infections
- Difficult to treat if they are diffuse (affecting more than one small area).
- Three types. Micro cystic, Macro cystic and Mixed



### Arterio-Venous Malformations (AVM)



- Involve an abnormal connection between arteries and veins
- Consist of a blood vessel "nidus" (nest) through which arteries connect directly to veins, instead of through capillaries.
- Symptoms include throbbing pain and growth/thickness of the area involved.
- Palpation over lesion will reveal a pulsation or thrill.
- If bleeding occurs it can be quite brisk and may require medical attention.



## Combined Malformations Sturge Weber Syndrome





- Sturge-Weber syndrome consists of
- Tortuous slow-flow vessels involving the conjunctiva, episclera, retina or choroid.
- Glaucoma is the most common and serious ophthalmological complication; the prevalence is 60% (Sujansky and Conradi, 1995a).
- Sudden corneal clouding is the pathognomonic sign of acute glaucoma; this is an emergency.



## Diagnosis



#### Ultrasound...





Ultrasonography of AV malformation of upper lip Note the arterial flow, venous flow and nidus of capillaries

Nidus



#### **CT** Scan

CT scan helps locate the position and extent of the lesion They also help in identifying bony structures adjacent to the lesion



Coronal CT Scan of A-V malformation of the cheek



# Arteriogram is a CT scan with contrast that offers a clear view of the vessels in the vascular malformation



Arteriogram of Lymphangioma of Cheek Note the absence of feeder vessels Note the size of the cystic lesion.

If it is more than 2 cm it is a macrocystic lesion otherwise it is

microcystic



#### Arteriogram

Phleboliths

Tortuous feeder vessels

Arteriogram of Venous malformation of cheek Note the presence of feeder vessels and phleboliths



LT

## Arteriogram



Note the difference between right and left External Carotid Artery



#### MRI

The MRI helps the surgeon visualize the extent of the lesion in relation to surrounding soft tissue structures



MRI Scan of AV malformation of upper lip Note the clarity of the extent of the lesion



## Treatment



## Treatment

Treatment for Vascular Malformations and Hemangiomas is usually as follows

For Low Flow Superficial Lesions Sclerotherapy followed by Conventional surgery

For High Flow Lesions Subtraction angiography with embolization with gel foam or stents followed by Conventional surgery within 72 hours

In India Angiography is beyond the capacity of most patients. Therefore angiography is considered only if any great vessel is involved.



#### **Cutaneous Hemangiomas**



#### Sclerotherapy

 Syrup or Tablet Propranolol: 0.5 -1 mg/kg of body weight in two divided doses for 6 months under strict pediatric supervision

(*Propranolol*, β-blocker, vascoconstrictor, regulating angiogenic pathways inducing apoptosis of vascularized endothelial cells)

 Injection Triamcinolone (Kenocort): One 20 mg /ml vial diluted in 2 ml saline and 1ml lignocaine injected intralesionally, once a month for six months.

(*Triamcinolone*, corticosteroid suppresses vasculogenic capability of multipotent stem cells)

 Contractubex (10% aqueous onion extract, 50 U heparin per gram of gel,1% allantoin) gel and olive oil: massage on the lesion twice daily till the regression of the lesion.



#### All Vascular Malformations and Hemangiomas



#### <u>Bleomycin Treatment</u>

- Pingyangmycin (Bleomycin A5): 2-6 ml (0.5 -4 mg/ml concentration) given intralesionally and repeated every 4 weeks for a maximum of 12 sessions. OR
- Bleomycin: 0.5 1.0mg/kg body weight up to a maximum of 6mg (0.5-105 mg/ml concentration) given intralesionally and repeated every 4 weeks for a maximum of 12 sessions.
- Bleomycin acts by producing a sclerosing effect due to its direct action on the endothelial cells of the lesion producing non-specific inflammatory reaction
- Can be given in Capillary, Venous, Arterio-venous and Lymphatic malformation and Hemagiomas.



## **Surgical Protocol**

• Key is Accessibility

Accessible = Surgery

Inaccessible = Embolisation and surgery

- Ligation of all possible blood vessels in the vicinity of the lesion
- Aim of surgery
  - HARMONIC SCALPEL is used to radically excise all affected tissue as remnants of necrotic tissue can form a focus of a granuloma or further infection.
  - Reconstruct what ever possible
  - Post operative maintenance with steroidal injections intralesionally



### Harmonic Scalpel



- Cutting instrument that can cut and coagulate tissue simultaneously
- Can cut through thicker tissue and create less toxic surgical smoke than a Bovie
- Offers greater precision than a Bovie
- Cuts via vibration. Bovie cuts via an electrical current (and production of heat)

Therefore Harmonic Scalpel causes less lateral thermal damage





#### **Capillary Hemangioma**





Hypertrophied Capillary Malformation Treatment with full thickness skin graft harvested from right groin





#### Low Flow Venous Malformation





#### **High Flow Venous Malformation**





#### Lymphatic Malformation

Surgery is only performed as a cosmetic adjuvant to other therapies.

Macrocystic lymphatic malformations are treated with drainage and ethanol injections as a sclerosing agent.

Microcystic lymphatic malformations are treated with doxycycline injections as sclerosing agent





**High Flow A-V Malformation** 







High Flow A-V Malformation





#### Sturge Weber Syndrome





Sturge Weber Syndrome



## Complications

#### Hemangioma

• Very problematic, interfering with eating, breathing, seeing, hearing, and speaking.

- Vascular malformations: capillary, venous and arterio-venous
- Patients with port-wine stains should be evaluated and monitored for a larger syndromic entity.
  - Malformations that are part of the Klippel-Trenaunay-Weber syndrome can be located on the lungs, spleen, liver, bladder, or colon. Visceral involvement can often lead to substantial morbidity in the form of internal hemorrhage.



## Complications...

#### Vascular malformations - Lymphatic malformations

- Diffuse cervicofacial disease can result in mandibulomaxillary hypertrophy because of direct invasion of the bone and growth of the malformation within the bone..
- Lymphangiomas often swell with the onset of general viral infection or remote bacterial infection. This typically resolves with the resolution of the infection.
- Lymphangiomas can become infected



### Do not confuse a Vascular malformation with...



#### **Carotid Body Tumor**

Slowly enlarging(~5mm per year), non-tender neck masses located just anterior to the sternocleidomastoid muscle at the level of the hyoid.

The mass may transmit the carotid pulse or demonstrate a bruit or thrill, which might confuse the clinician to think it is a vascular malformation.

As these tumors enlarge, progressive symptoms of dysphagia, odynophagia, hoarseness and other cranial nerve(IX-XII) deficits appear.

Carotid angiography is by far the most useful diagnostic test for paragangliomas.



#### Carotid Body Tumor









Vascular Malformations of the head and neck region are something that are treatable in most situations

Care must be taken, however, to do a work up for the patient

Most lesions that you will find in your practice will be low flow lesions

Todiagnose the flow of vascular malformation lesions requires nothing more than an ultra sound.

The key to treatment is Accessibility



#### Bring the Smile Back



#### **Thank You**

