Challenges of Wegener’s Granulomatosis: Case Report

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Background & Aim: Wegener's granulomatosis is a multisystem autoimmune disease with appearance of granulomatous and necrotizing changes in small and medium capillaries. Its occurrence is 3 on 100 000 patients and the goal is to be diagnosed on time.
Case Study: A 49-year-old female patient with: difficulty breathing through the nose, a breathy voice for more than a month, progressive hunger for air and perichondritis on left auricle, came for examination. Flexible endoscope: crusted and necrotic changes involving nasal cavities, both vocal cords paralyzed in paramedian position causing blockage of airway.
Analyses like microbiological, laboratory and rheumatologically was preformed as well as Computed tomography of the head, neck and chest. Investigations including direct laryngoscopy shows a circular subglottic stenosis that obstructs the lumen for respiration by 70% was visualized. Due to that Irrigation of the nasal cavities and tracheostomy was preformed. Necessary biopsies were taken.
Results: MRSA was isolated microbiologically. Rheumatology analyses showed elevated values of rheumatoid factor and antinuclear antibodies. Computed tomography presented: thickening of the nasal mucosa, both maxillary sinuses and the mucosa of the arytenoid cricoid cartilage. A challenging diagnosis was made: Wegener's granulomatosis. Treatment with the biological agent Rituximap and high-dose corticosteroids improved the general condition and local findings.
Conclusions: It is challenging to establish early diagnosis and timely intervention in patients with granuloma with polyangiitis because of the high risk of complications and morbidity. Surgical treatment and a multidisciplinary approach increase the prospects for a better outcome of the disease.
Agreement: Yes