

Mucoid Cyst of the Penis: A Case Report

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ABSTRACT

Penile cysts are rare benign lesions. Their clinical or pathological diagnosis is extremely difficult. Less than 200 cases have been reported in literature. Most of them are asymptomatic and present since birth, but usually they are only detectable in adolescence or adulthood. These lesions rarely interfere with sexual function. These cysts most likely arise from ectopic urethral mucosa sequestered in the penile skin during embryologic development. We report a rare case of a 55-year-old man with a 4.5 × 4 cm nodule on the prepuce (ventral surface), which appeared two years ago and interfered with his sexual function. The nodule was excised by circumcision and a histopathological examination revealed a mucoid cyst of penis with squamous metaplasia. No recurrence was observed at a one year follow-up and the patient's sexual function returned to normal.

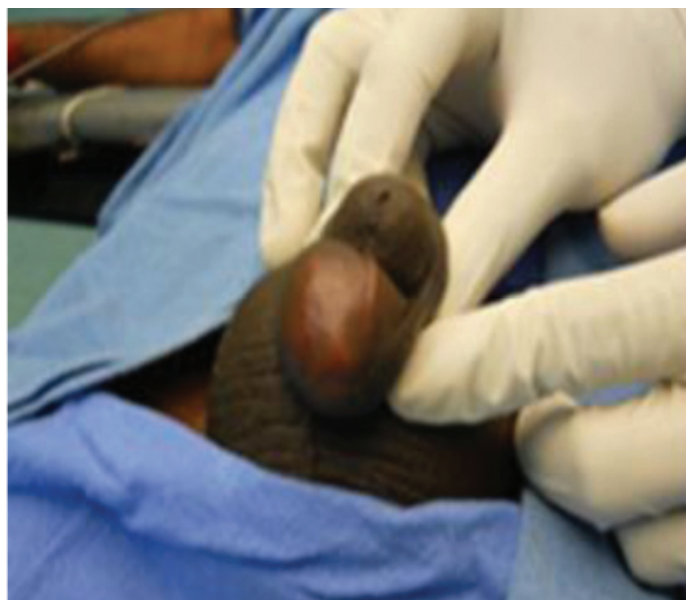
Keywords: Benign cyst, Mucoid cyst, Penile cyst, Prepuce cyst

CASE REPORT

A 55-year-old man developed a progressively increasing nodule on fore skin of his penis since two years, which started to interfere with his sexual function for last three months [Table/Fig-1]. There was no history of trauma, infection or previous surgery. On physical examination, we observed a 4.5 × 4 cm soft, tender and cystic nodule on the prepuce (ventral surface) [Table/Fig-1&2]. All routine investigations were within normal limits. The lesion was excised by circumcision under local anaesthesia and sent for histopathologic study. Histopathologic examination revealed cyst wall showing single layer of cuboidal to columnar epithelium [Table/Fig-3]. There were no postoperative complications and the patient was discharged on the same day. Patient was followed up in surgery outpatient department every three months and no recurrence was observed and patient had no sexual discomfort.

DISCUSSION

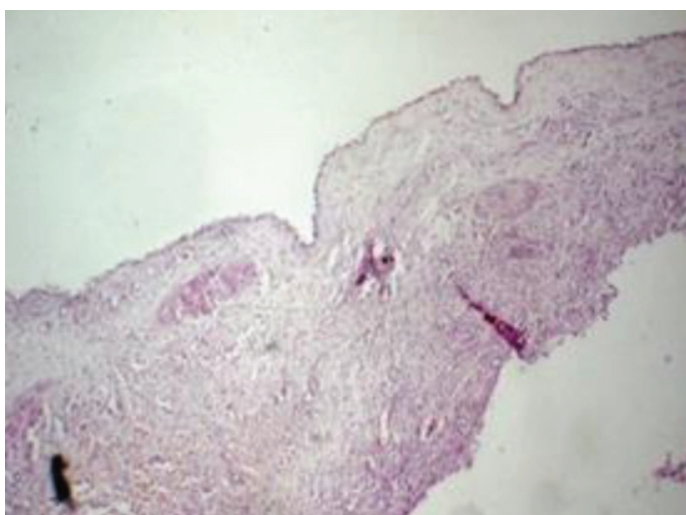
Mucus penile cyst is an uncommon benign lesion affecting mainly young men on ventral surface of glans penis but this case presented in sixth decade. An extensive literature search has revealed only less than 200 reported cases. Among these, only less than 10



[Table/Fig-2]: Penile cyst (ventral view)



[Table/Fig-1]: Penile cyst (lateral view)



[Table/Fig-3]: Cyst wall showing single layer of cuboidal to columnar epithelium (x100 H & E)

have been reported from the Indian subcontinent [1]. The clinical diagnosis is difficult and differential diagnoses include epidermal cyst, lipomas, steatocystomas, dermoid cysts, pilonidal cysts, tyson glands cysts and urethral diverticula [2,3]. Several synonymous terms, including mucus cyst of the penis, genitoperineal cyst of the median raphe, parameatal cyst, hydrocystoma and apocrine cystadenoma of the penile shaft are also used in past [1,4]. Although most of them are present since birth, but usually they are only detectable on adolescence or adulthood [5]. Only one case of a spontaneous onset after an intense sexual intercourse has been documented [1,6]. They are midline-developmental cysts in the perineum that can be found anywhere from the anus to the urinary meatus. The cysts commonly present around the glans mainly on the penile ventral surface, around near the glans. Mucoïd cyst also needs to be differentiated from median raphe cyst of the penis, which generally occurs along the median raphe on the ventral surface of the penis. Median raphe cysts which are usually asymptomatic are lined by urothelium or squamous epithelium [7,8]. Mucoïd cysts usually, they are asymptomatic but can be complicated by infection, trauma or can make coitus difficult, as with the patient in this report [9,10]. Surgical excision is required. They are benign cysts and no case of malignancy has been reported till date.

CONCLUSION

Penile cysts are rare entity and are present since birth but detected in adolescence or adulthood. They are excised by circumcision.

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