Abstract

Plasma cell dyscrasias include a spectrum of diseases with neoplastic proliferation of a single clone of plasma cells which secretes a monoclonal immunoglobulin^{2, 4}. Solitary plasmacytoma represents five percent of plasma cell dyscrasias. When there is localized single clone of plasma cells in bone without other features of multiple myeloma (MM) including anemia, hypercalcemia, renal insufficiency, or multiple lytic bone lesions, is termed Single plasmacytoma of bone (SPB) ^{6, 7}. Because of the patients with SPB may fulfill criteria for MM or can progress to MM over 2-4 years, further evaluation is necessary to differentiate those two entities prior to the diagnosis ^{10, 11}.

Light chain only myeloma which represents 20% of MM, lacks expression of the immunoglobulin heavy chain¹⁵. These patients are detected by serum free light chain (SFLC) assay and urine protein electrophoresis (UPEP) with urine immunofixation. Furthermore 5% of the patients with multiple myeloma present with spinal cord compression following vertebral compression fractures or vertebral plasmacytoma ^{27, 28}.

Here we present a fifty-year-old Sri Lankan female who presented with acute spastic para paresis with a sensory level due acute spinal cord compression from plasmacytoma of the spine at the tenth thoracic vertebra with evidence of multiple myeloma including bone marrow involvement and end organ damage; anemia, hypercalcemia, multiple bony lytic lesions, subsequently revealing kappa light chain myeloma. Even though renal derangement is frequently seen in patient with light chain only myeloma²¹, our patient had normal renal functions at the presentation.

In conclusion, plasmacytoma of the bone causing acute spinal cord compression can be the rare, first manifestation of multiple myeloma. During the diagnosis of multiple myeloma, high index of suspicion is needed to detect light chain only myeloma with the background of negative serum protein electrophoresis. Close monitoring of renal functions will be helpful during subsequent follow up to detect early renal involvement due to light chain myeloma.