Case Report

**Adenomyomatous polyp – A culprit for infertility: rare case report**

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**A B S T R A C T**

Adenomyomatous polyp is a rare subtype of endometrial polyp. About 1.3% of endometrial polyps are adenomyomatous polyps. It affects females of fourth decade and above. This polyp is comprised of smooth muscles, endometrial glands and endometrial stroma. We report a case of 38-year female with history of secondary infertility. To the best of our knowledge, no case of adenomyomatous polyp has ever been presented with the complaint of inability to conceive, in the literature.

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1. **Introduction**

Adenomyomatous polyp is a rare subtype of endometrial polyp in which smooth muscle is the prominent stromal component.¹ About 1.3% of endometrial polyps are adenomyomatous polyps.² This lesion affects the females of fourth decade and later. Grossly it is very difficult to distinguish adenomyomatous polyp from ordinary endometrial polyp.³⁻⁵ This polyp is comprised of smooth muscles, endometrial glands and endometrial stroma.¹

There was no history of hormonal therapy. We report a case of 38-year female with history of secondary infertility.

2. **Case Report**

A 38 years female presented with a complaint of secondary infertility to the OPD at Adesh institute of medical sciences and research, Bathinda. There was no history of hormonal therapy. Hysteroscopy guided polypectomy under general anaesthesia was performed and the specimen was sent to the department of Pathology. On gross examination, a polypoidal grey white to tan tissue measuring 0.6x0.6x0.2cm was received. Hematoxylin stained slides examined show a polypoidal tissue lined by columnar to flattened lining epithelium. Subepithelium show small to elongated endometrial glands embedded in an edematous stroma. Intermixed are seen intersecting fascicles of smooth muscle fibres along with scattered blood vessels and chronic inflammatory infiltrate comprising of Lymphocytes, plasma cells and eosinophils. On histopathology Adenomyomatous polyp was the diagnosis (Figures 1 and 2).

3. **Discussion**

Endometrial polyps of adenomyomatous type are rare. The origin is focal hyperplasia of basalis leading to the localized overgrowth of endometrial tissue containing variable amount of endometrial glands, stroma, smooth muscles and blood vessels. These polyps are sessile or pedunculated masses, single to multiple and vary in sizes from 0.5cm to 3 cm in diameter or may be larger.⁶

It shows that Adenomyomatous polyp usually seen in fourth decade and later in females which is in concordance to our case.

There is no history of any hormonal therapy in the present case that is similar to the studies of Fitzhugh et al.⁷
Table 1: Review of cases of adenomyomatous polyp in literature and comparison with present case

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Authors</th>
<th>Patient age</th>
<th>Hormonal therapy (tamoxifen)</th>
<th>Symptoms</th>
<th>Year of publication</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nasu et al</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>1997</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fitzhugh et al</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Menometrorrhagia</td>
<td>2008</td>
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<tr>
<td>Takeuchi et al</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nasu et al</td>
<td>37-57</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Menorrhagia</td>
<td>1995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sato et al</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silverberg SG</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Menorrhagia</td>
<td>1975</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huang et al</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Postmenopausal bleeding</td>
<td>2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Babu et al</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bhagyalakshmi et al</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Menorrhagia</td>
<td>2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Present case</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Secondary infertility</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Nasu et al, Sato et al, Silverberg SG, Huang et al, Babu et al and Bhagyalakshmi et al. Only two authors Nasu et al, and Takeuchi et al have history of tamoxifen therapy.

The most common presenting symptom is the bleeding per vaginum either menorrhagia or post-menopausal bleeding (Fitzhugh et al, Nasu et al, Silverberg SG, Huang et al, Bhagyalakshmi et al). In the studies of Nasu et al., Sato et al and Babu et al, the patients were asymptomatic. Our case is unique in the way of presentation as secondary infertility. To the best of our knowledge, no case of adenomyomatous polyp has ever been presented with the complaint of inability to conceive, in the literature.

About 1.3% of endometrial polyps are adenomyomatous polyps. Incidence of endometrial polyps is higher in women treated with tamoxifen (8 to 36%) than in untreated women (0-10%).

Treatment modalities depend on the size of the polyp and symptoms. Polypectomy suffices in small, asymptomatic lesions while hysterectomy is mandatory for the larger one causing frustrating symptoms.

4. Conclusion
Adenomyomatous polyp of endometrium is a rare entity which could be a possible culprit for the infertility.

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6. Conflict of Interest
None.
References


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