



Multiple Osteocartilaginous Exostosis in a Developing community



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Abstract

Jaffe's standard work on bone tumors did define multiple osteocartilaginous exostosis as the hereditary form of the solitary type. However, in a developing community, the family tree may not be traceable. The relatively few cases encountered among the Ibo/Igbo ethnic group in the South Eastern Region of Nigeria are worthy of documentation.

Keywords: Bone; Tumor; Exostosis; Multiple, Osteocartilaginous; Age

Introduction

In his standard work on bone tumors, interest was shown not only on solitary but also on familial multiple osteocartilaginous exostosis by Jaffe [1]. As for the latter, the element of familiar disposition is difficult to trace in a developing community. Accordingly, this paper beams on the few cases provided that multiplicity occurred. This has been aided by the injunction that the establishment of a histopathology data pool facilitates epidemiological analysis [2]. The pool long established at Enugu, in South Eastern Nigeria, offers itself for such analysis [3]. The analysis is in Tabular form.

Results

Table 1: Age, sex, sites.

No	Initials	Age	Sex	Sites
1	OE	14	M	All 4 limbs
2	EN	10	F	Multiple in legs and hands
3	IS	11	F	Multiple both upper legs
4	UV	6	M	Multiple long bones, scapular, ribs
5	CO	14	F	Left humerus, left elbow, R tibia
6	NK	12	F	Multiple

Table 1 on the whole, the patients were aged from 6 to 14 years (mean 11 years). The female/male ratio was 2:1. Multiplicity of sites was striking. The specimens measured 1 cm to 3 cm. Incidentally, only two patients were X-Rayed

Discussion

A Norfolk, USA, group stated that these exostoses are uncommon in the hand [4]. There were 2 examples here. In a French book [5], these exostoses were commonest in males. This is contrary to my experience. From the Netherlands [6], these tumors are mostly formed along the long bones of the extremities. The present series is of this distribution. Unlike the local childhood cases, a USA 54-year-old male was presented twice curiously [7].

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