

Giant vulvar lipoma

Lipoma vulvar gigante

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Lipomas are benign mesenchymal tumors comprised of mature adipose cells, generally asymptomatic and of slow growth. They usually appear on obese females, on the upper back, proximal areas of the limbs, and neck. They are rarely present in the vulva^{1,2}. Below we show the case of a young woman with a large tumor on the genital area which is consistent with a vulvar lipoma.

The patient is a 23-year-old female who initially presented a 2 cm semisolid tumor 5 years ago with no pain, which appeared spontaneously on the right labium majus, treated as Bartholinitis and Bartholin gland cyst, with no improvement.

During the physical exploration a tumor dependent on the right labium majus was found with a size of 51 cm high and 30 cm wide with solid and softened areas. A simple tomography was performed which reported an

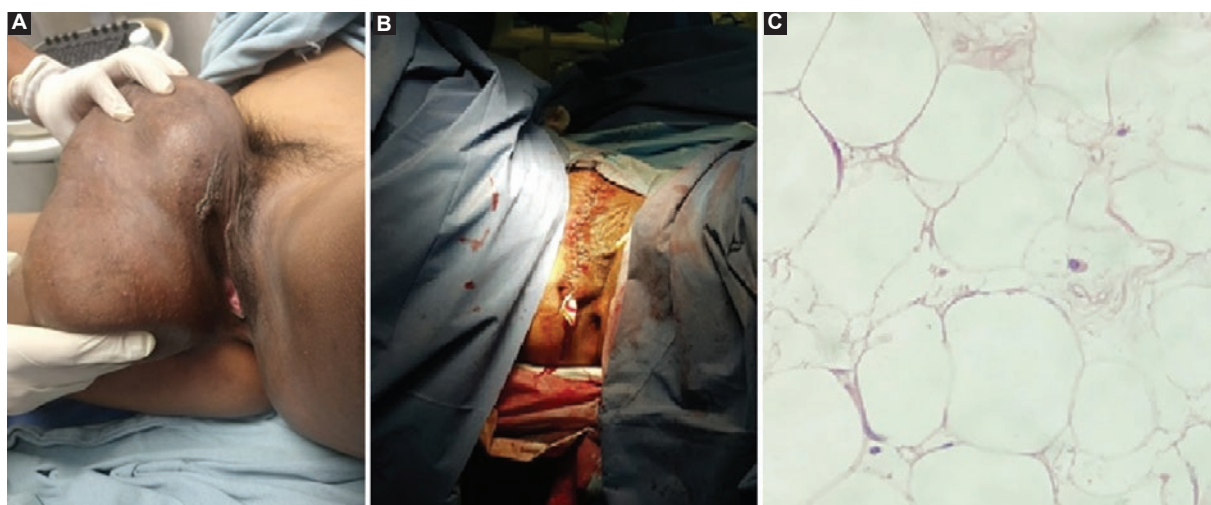


Figure 1. A: macroscopic aspect of the vulvar lipoma. B: vaginal plastia after exeresis of giant lipoma. C: anatomopathological lamellae showing mature adipocytes organized in lobes separated by fibrose walls (hematoxylin and eosin stain).

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avascular solid lobed injury dependent on the right labium majus. An elective surgical intervention was scheduled. An incision on the spindle was made and through a blunt dissection the structures of the vascular spindle were identified. After the hemostasis, a complete excision of the tumor was performed with a subsequent vulvar plastia. The anatomopathological report was consistent with lipoma (Fig. 1).

Although lipomas represent 1% of benign tumors, they are infrequent in the vulvar area; there are only about 100 isolated reports^{2,3}. Within the genital area, their most frequent location is the right labium majus, with an underlying traumatic etiology. As in the case of this patient, it can be incorrectly diagnosed as Bartholin gland disease or inguinal hernias¹⁻⁴.

Conflicts of interest

The authors declare that they have no conflicts of interest.

Ethical disclosures

Protection of People and Animals. The authors state that the procedures followed are in compliance with the ethical standards of the responsible human experimenting and the World Medical Association and the Declaration of Helsinki.

Data Confidentiality. The authors state that the protocols of their work center regarding the publication of patient data have been followed.

Right to privacy and informed consent. The authors have obtained informed consent from the patients and/or subjects mentioned in the article. This document is owned by the corresponding author.

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