

# Malignant Leiomyoblastoma: An Incidental Diagnosis

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**DEAR EDITOR,**

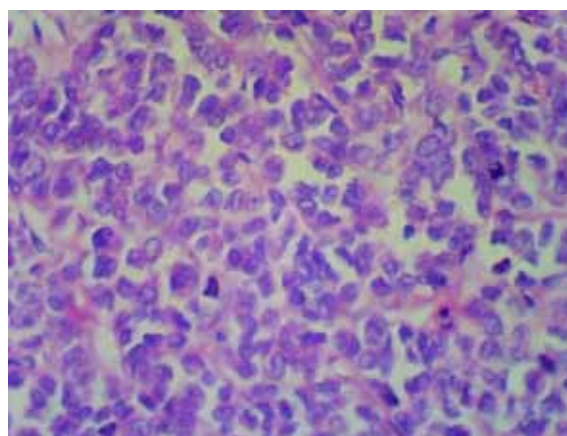
Epithelioid leiomyosarcoma or malignant leiomyoblastoma of uterus is a rare uterine tumor, incidentally diagnosed after hysterectomy <sup>1</sup> in <1% situation during reporting of fibroid after conventional histology like HE or Giemsa staining.

A lady of 45 yrs age came with complaints of pain abdomen, swelling of abdomen and heavy vaginal bleeding. Her menstrual pattern was normal; only the amount was slightly heavy. She had a spontaneous vaginal delivery 25 yrs back. Ultrasonogram reported a large solitary fibroid uterus with degenerative changes in the middle portion. Total abdominal hysterectomy was done along with bilateral salpingo-oophorectomy within a week. In gross specimen there was subserosal variegated growth 10 cm in diameter, showing extensive hemorrhage and necrosis (Fig 1).



**Figure 1. Cut Section of Uterus showing degeneration changes in middle of fibroid**

The histopathological report showed epithelioid leiomyosarcoma (malignant leiomyoblastoma) of uterus. In detailed microscopic report, round rather than spindle shaped cells arranged in clusters were seen with eosinophilic cytoplasm, moderate cytological atypia (mitotic figure was 10/10 in HPF) and large round nucleus (Fig 2). The patient was referred to higher centre for opinion of oncologist but she did not come for follow up.



**Figure 2. Photomicrographic view of Epithelioid Leiomyosarcoma (Malignant Leiomyoblastoma) of uterus (H and E Stained -X 400)**

The median age for woman with leiomyosarcoma (43-53 years) is somewhat lower than the other uterine sarcomas.<sup>2</sup> Large uterine tumor can be a malignant one so all large uterine tumors should be removed without delay and sent for histopathologic evaluation.<sup>3</sup> Until additional evidence has been accumulated it is proposed that neoplasms having five or more mitotic figures per ten high-power fields (HPF) be tentatively termed epithelioid leiomyosarcoma or leiomyosarcoma with epithelioid

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features. Immunohistochemistry is a newer technique to identify the nature of the tumor more specifically.<sup>4</sup> Facility of newer methods should be available to all centers as the fibroid of uterus is very common. Our case study emphasizes the need of histopathology along with immunohistochemistry even in rural sectors of the country as hysterectomy is frequently performed in cases of fibroid. Since little is known about these tumors further studies are necessary to evaluate hormonal influences both as a causative factor and as a therapeutic possibility.<sup>5</sup>

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