INTRODUCTION

The carpal tunnel syndrome is a group of symptoms associated to the compression of the median nerve. This situation is usually the result of the combination of several factors that provoke an increase in pressure on the median nerve. Some tumors can cause carpal tunnel syndrome. Here, we are introduced to an example of a patient operated on of a carpal tunnel syndrome, with the casual find of a fibrolipoma of the median nerve.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Male patient of 49 years. On clinical suspicion of bilateral carpal tunnel syndrome, an electromyography is needed to confirm the diagnostic. The patient is diagnosed with bilateral carpal tunnel syndrome of mild intensity on the right hand and moderate on the left hand, so surgical release of the median nerve of the left hand was scheduled. Intraoperatively, a rice grain size perineural, yellowish colouring and soft consistency tumour was detected. The tumour was resected and the sample is sent on for testing.

RESULTS

The pathological study of the tumour was reported as “Fibrofatty tissue with no other relevant alterations”. The patient evolved positively, with a significant improvement of his symptoms.

CONCLUSIONS

The neural fibrolipoma is a benign and infrequent neoplasia that usually affects to the median nerve. Clinically, in most cases is manifested as a slow growth mass of soft tissues associated to distal compressive nervous symptomatology. Its treatment is controversial, and can be made a conservative treatment, external or internal neurolysis for the tumor resection, or radical excision associated or not to a graft. Moreover, median nerve decompression inside the carpal tunnel is recommended if the nerve is compressed.

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