

EP-113

지방종 절제 후 재발성 이마 종괴로 나타난 연속적인 반응성 신경 병변

(Sequential Reactive Neural Changes Presenting as a Recurrent Forehead Mass after Lipoma Excision)



순천향대학교 부속 서울병원
박찬경, 강상규*

Purpose: Recurrent masses in prior surgical sites are often suspected to represent recurrence of the original mass. However, reactive neural changes can present as palpable masses that mimic a recurred lesion. We report a case of a recurrent forehead mass years after lipoma excision, demonstrating sequential histopathologic findings of traumatic neuroma followed by scar-associated neural fibrosis.

Methods: A 65-year-old woman underwent surgical excision of a forehead lipoma at our institution 11 years prior. She had noticed gradual enlargement of a palpable mass at the previous surgical site for approximately three years before presenting to our clinic. Examination revealed a firm, localized mass at the excision site without sensory deficit. The mass was excised under local anesthesia. Histopathology revealed small nerve fascicles enveloped in collagen, consistent with traumatic neuroma. One year later, she returned with enlargement at the same site (Fig. 1). The mass was re-excised, and histopathology showed dermal nerve bundles with collagenous fibrosis and no evidence of recurrent neuroma or neoplastic change (Fig. 2).

Results: Both lesions were completely excised. The postoperative course was uneventful, without neurologic deficits or wound complications. At follow-up, the patient

remains stable without recurrence and continues under surveillance.

Conclusion: Reactive neural changes may present as recurrent masses at prior surgical sites. Histopathologic findings from the first re-excision were consistent with traumatic neuroma, whereas the subsequent specimen demonstrated organized dermal nerve bundles with fibrosis, suggesting scar-associated neural remodeling rather than true tumor recurrence. Recognition of this post-excisional neural alteration may help avoid misdiagnosis and guide appropriate management

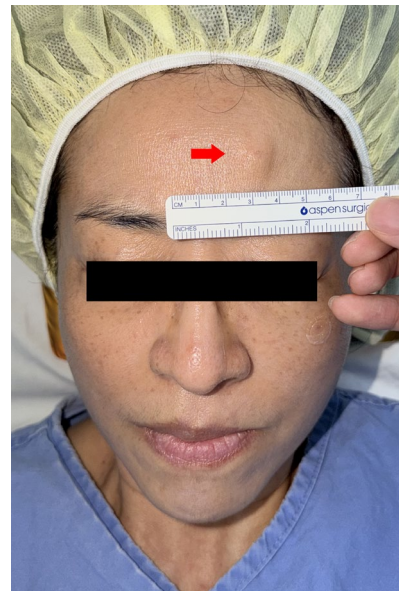


Figure 1. Preoperative photograph demonstrating a well-defined, round mass on the left forehead.



Figure 2. Gross specimen obtained after excision, showing a nodular soft tissue mass with an irregular surface.