

Mucosal Schwann Cell Hamartoma: A Benign but Obscure Finding

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CASE PRESENTATION

HISTORY

- A 69-year-old African American male with no history of gastrointestinal disease and no family history of neuronal lesion presented for a colonoscopy.
- Patient denied any symptoms, melena, hematochezia and had a benign physical exam and laboratory findings.

FINDINGS

- Colonoscopy revealed 6 subcentimeter sessile polyps, one of which was a 5 mm polyp in the sigmoid colon
- Histology of this polyp was consistent with MSCH (Figure 1), with the other polyps showing tubular adenomas (TA).
- Immunohistochemical (IHC) stains were positive for S100, and negative for CD68 and SMA further supporting the diagnosis.

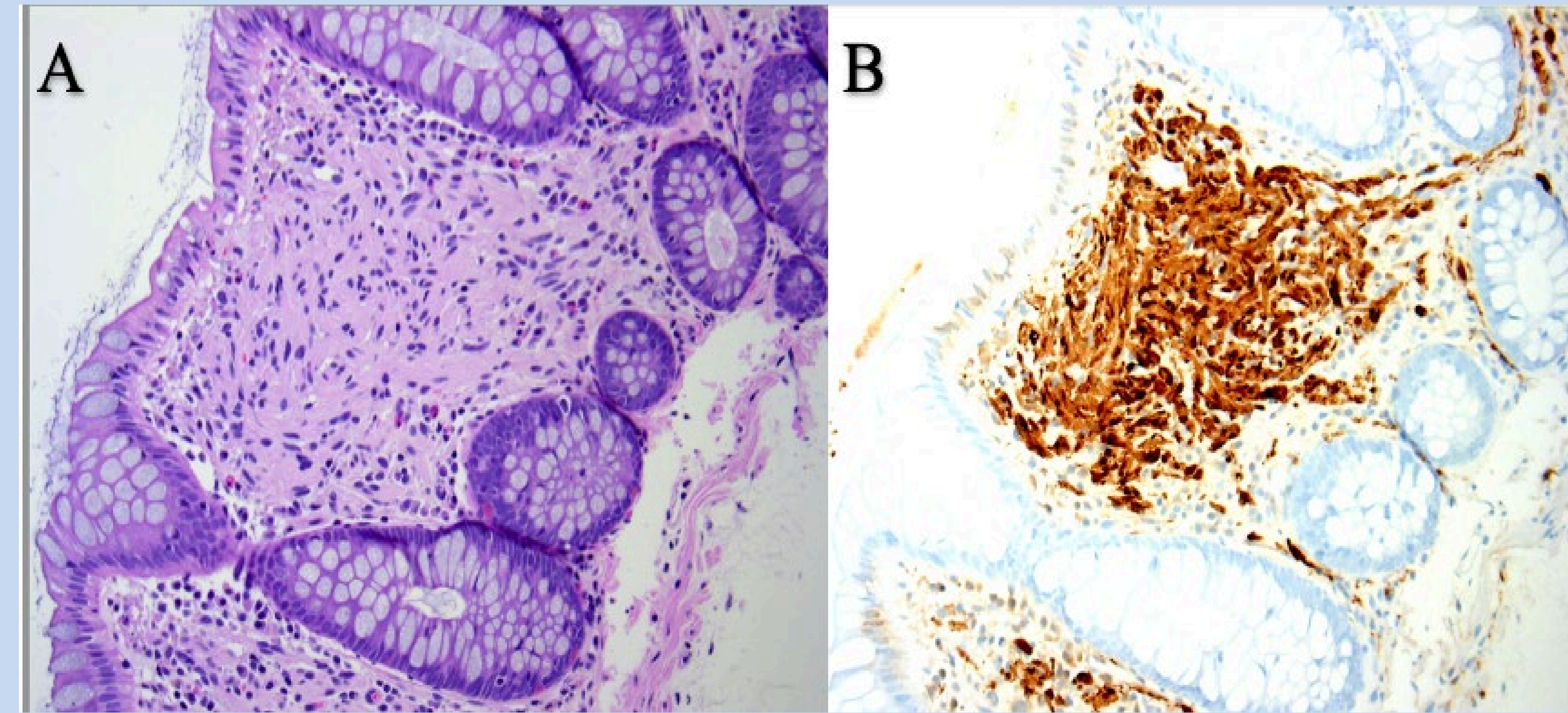


Figure 1: A. H&E stain of mucosal proliferation in the lamina propria. B. S100+ staining (brown)

DISCUSSION

- MSCH of the sigmoid colon is a rare condition that is usually an incidental finding on colonoscopy.
- MSCH is a benign mesenchymal nerve sheath tumor originating from Schwann cells, arising in the lamina propria of the colon.
- They are most commonly seen in the sigmoid colon and are detected as small polyps anywhere between 1 – 8 mm.
- There is no association with any inherited disorder.

- Most patients present asymptotically, however, when symptomatic, patients can present with diarrhea, abdominal pain, bleeding, or constipation.
- Because of its rarity, the significance of the finding is not clear. Currently, there are no guidelines for surveillance colonoscopy for MSCH.
- Diagnosis is dependent on histological features and IHC pattern. On histology, hamartomas show proliferation of spindle cells in the lamina propria separating the crypt architecture.
- Strong positivity for S100, and negative CD68 and SMA is suggestive of neural origin and prove Schwann cell phenotype.
- There have been no reports of malignant transformation in literature.
- Awareness of this entity could prevent additional endoscopies for patients and decrease healthcare costs from unnecessary surveillance and treatments.