Complex Cystic Mass

Clinical Situation

This patient is a 57-year-old with a 2cm mass in her right breast (*Figure 1*). The mass has increased slightly in size compared with the prior outside films.

Findings

An ultrasound was performed revealing a heterogeneous but predominately cystic lesion; best characterized as a complex cystic mass. It was considered complex due to internal echoes, but also because of vascular flow within the anterior aspect of the wall (Figures 2 and 3). Because of these features, a biopsy was recommended.

Procedure

The Mammotome® EX 11-gauge probe was selected to biopsy the lesion because it was desirable to remove the entire complex cyst. After the second specimen was obtained, the cyst collapsed (Figure 4). Because the Mammotome® is positioned directly under the lesion, we were able to continue to remove the anterior wall where the flow had been seen. A MammoMARK™ tissue marker was placed to identify where the lesion had been located (Figure 5). There were no complications.

Pathology

Pathology revealed an intraductal papilloma with fibrocystic changes and no atypia. The patient was advised to undergo yearly mammograms.

Discussion

It was particularly important in this case to attempt removal of the entire abnormality because of the strong possibility that it represented a papillary lesion based on its sonographic appearance. Partial removal of the papilloma could lead to recurrence of these

lesions, forcing another percutaneous or surgical biopsy. Placement of a tissue marker provides a landmark of the biopsy site for future screening mammograms.

Courtesy

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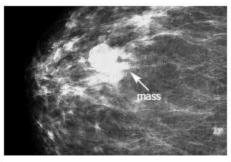


Figure 1 2cm Mass



Figure 2 Complex Cystic Mass

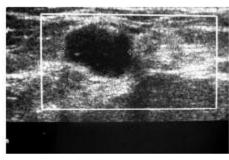


Figure 3 Pre-Biopsy

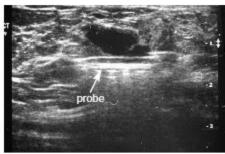


Figure 4 Biopsy probe directly under lesion.

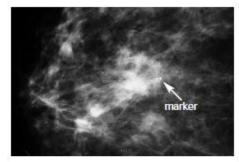


Figure 5 Biopsy site marker in place.

