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SMALL BOWEL RESECTION IN A PATIENT WITH BUERGER'S DISEASE AND INTESTINAL INVOLVEMENT

Meryem Doğan Altunpulluk¹, Sibel Ocak Serin²

¹Sağlık Bilimleri Ünv. Ümraniye Eğitim Ve Araştırma Hastanesi-patoloji Lab

²Sağlık Bilimleri Ünv. Ümraniye Eğitim Ve Araştırma Hastanesi-gastroenteroloji Kliniği

Buerger's disease, also called thromboangiitis obliterans, is a recurrent and an uncommon vaso-occlusive inflammatory disease, which typically affects small and medium-sized arteries, veins and nerves of the upper and lower extremities. Mesenteric and multisystem involvement is extremely rare.

Here we report the case of a 62-year-old male heavy smoker who had undergone repetitive laparotomies and small bowel resections for ischaemic involvement of Buerger's disease. He had below-the-knee amputation of the right and left leg because of that disease before bowel involvement. Histopathological findings revealed that the arteries and veins of the resected small intestine were occluded with organised thrombi. Inflammatory cell infiltration was recognised mainly in the intima of distal branches of mesenteric artery. Microscopically, small mesenteric vessels were occluded by organized and recanalized thrombi with preserved vascular architecture.

Although histologically confirmed intestinal Buerger's disease is very rare, in some cases, abdominal symptoms of unknown origin may be attributed to mesenteric involvement of Buerger's disease, due to the difficulty of detecting ischemic lesions, especially in the small.

Anahtar Kelimeler : Buerger's Disease, Thromboangiitis Obliterans, Intestinal Ischemia