METASTATIC SMALL CELL CARCINOMA OF THYROID: UNUSUAL CASE PRESENTATION
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Background/Purpose: Metastasis to the thyroid gland is rare event compared with the frequency of
primary thyroid tumors.
Methods: A 49-year-old man complained of swelling around the left side of the neck, dyspnea. Fine
needle aspiration cytology demonstrated round tumor cell proliferation in the cellular preparations.
Nucleoli were absent and mitotic activity could be observed easily. There were no any thyrocyte or
colloidal material.
Results: Thyroid small cell carcinoma differential diagnosis includes malignant lymphoma or metastatic
small cell carcinoma of the lung. Also rare primary small cell carcinoma may occur in the thyroid. From
the point of view of lung, adenocarcinomas are the most metastasizing lung cancer type to thyroid,
followed by squamous, large cell carcinomas and the rarest one, small cell carcinomas.
Discussion & Conclusion: Herein, we describe a patient with small cell lung cancer who developed
metastatic lesions to the thyroid. Fine needle aspiration cytology should be done as a first tool for accurate
diagnosis, and staging disease.