혈액투석환자에서 *Candida glabrata*에 의한 악성외이염 1예

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A Case of Malignant Otitis Externa Caused by *Candida glabrata* in a Patient Receiving Hemodialysis

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Background : Malignant otitis externa is a severe infection of the bone and soft tissues in the base of the skull that is generally caused by *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* and only rarely by other microorganisms. Malignant otitis externa caused by fungal infection is especially rare. We report an unusual case of malignant otitis externa caused by the fungus *C. glabrata*.

Case : A 74-year-old man with type 2 diabetes mellitus and end-stage renal disease was seen with right-sided otalgia. He has been treated with hemodialysis for two years. Computed tomography scan and a gallium scan showed right malignant otitis externa. He was treated with regular ear toilet, topical ciprofloxacin. Otalgia was improved and swelling and pus discharge were disappeared. On day 30, the patient developed severe right otalgia and his symptom was deteriorated. A second CT scan and gallium scan revealed bony destructive change in tympanic and petrosal bones indicating aggravation of right malignant otitis externa. On day 49, two time consecutive cultures taken from the external ear were positive for *C. glabrata*. The right exploratory tympanotomy and mastoidotomy was done on day 63. At surgery, the middle ear was filled with yellowish discharge and granulation tissue, which was taken for histologic examination. The yeast-like fungi were shown in both Gram stain and KOH preparation of specimens. The culture of the same specimens was positive for *C. glabrata*. Intravenous amphotericin B was added to the treatment regimen. Diffuse swelling around external auditory canal was reduced after being treated with intravenous amphotericin B, and the earache disappeared. After antifungal treatment the patient was doing well with regard to *C. glabrata*.

Conclusion : This case demonstrates the importance of obtaining a microbiologic diagnosis in those who are not responding to conventional treatment. We suggest that deliberate search for an unusual organism will be needed for successful treatment.