Analyze the case and answer the questions

Science, Biology

Tumor Affiliation: A tumor is a group of abnormally functional and dividing cells. Tumors divide uncontrollably and are non-functional unlike normal cells that are functionally specific and controlled division. It can be malignant or benign (Carlson et al 2009).

Tumors are divided into stage I-IV depending on the size, extent of spread to lymph nodes, other organs and how deep the tumor has penetrated. Tumor staging is important in the determination of treatment method and chances of survival. Tests to determine tumor stage include physical -palpation, information regarding history of the disease. Imaging-X-rays, ultrasounds, CT-scans, MR- are also used to determine tumor stage. Biopsies, laboratory tests of fluids (cytology) such as urine, blood, and lymphatic fluids can also be used. Surgical reports on the size and appearance can also be used.

The doctor selected an ultra sound to determine the exact location, size and spread of the tumor to the lymphatic nodes and other organs. A biopsy is the removal of part or the whole tumor for pathology examination such as microscopy. This is done to determine malignancy or benign. A combination of the two methods was sufficient to determine the mode of treatment.

Chemotherapy is the application of antineoplastic drugs to kill cancer cells and inhibit the tumor growth. Surgery removes the entire tumor and a regimen of chemotherapy to kill any remaining cancer cells. If any remaining cells are left the cells proliferate faster and become more invasive.

Monthly systematic palpation of the breast aids in earlier detection. It should be done after menstruation when hormones are more stable. If a lump is detected further consultation at a doctor is advised.

Reference

Carlson, R. W. (et al). (February 7, 2009). Breast cancer: Clinical practice guidelines in oncology. Maryland: National Center for Biotechnology Information.