



Figure 3: Magnetic resonance cholangiography

Treatment with itraconazole 200 mg daily was initiated and lasted 6 months. After 12 months the patient has no clinical or tomographic evidence of disease.

Discussion

PCM is classified in acute and subacute or chronic forms. Acute and subacute forms develop from a primary undetected pulmonary lesion that evolves quickly with lymphatic and hematogenous spread to the monocyte-macrophage system. Chronic form is the most commonly seen type in clinical practice and develops from the primary pulmonary complex or from reactivation of a quiescent pulmonary or metastatic focus, after a relatively long duration, and often expressed by pulmonary and tegumental damage.⁵ Gastrointestinal PCM is rarely recognized because of nonspecific clinical manifestations. It can present as part of a progressive dissemination of infection or as a result of local complications from a silent healing process.² Jaundice secondary to PCM may occur as a result of three independent mechanisms: 1) extrinsic compression of biliary ducts due to head of pancreas or liver hilum lymph node involvement; 2) biliary duct involvement due to granuloma (intrinsic lesion); 3) hepatitis secondary to PCM. The first is the most common mechanism.²

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Gastrointestinal stromal tumor mimicking a prostatic abscess

Introduction

Gastrointestinal stromal tumors (GIST) in the pelvis can cause intestinal obstruction or symptoms mimicking benign prostatic hyperplasia.[1]

Case Report

A 32-year-old man presented with rectal bleeding and passage of fleshy pieces per rectum, for 4 months. He also had constipation, distension of abdomen and occasional vomiting. 5 months ago he had presented with fever, burning micturition and urinary retention at another hospital. Sonography and computed tomography of the abdomen had suggested a diagnosis of prostatic abscess. He then underwent transurethral drainage of 700 ml pus; and culture had shown a growth of *E. coli*. He had repeated episodes of retention of urine, which was relieved only by catheterization.

On presentation at our institution, he was afebrile, pale, hypotensive and had tachycardia. Foley's catheter was in-situ

in the urinary bladder. Abdomen revealed distension, no guarding or rigidity, a non-tender, hard lump in the hypogastrium, increased bowel sounds and no ascites. On digital rectal examination, a hugely enlarged prostatic mass was palpable; having a defect through which the exploratory finger entered a cavity. The overlying rectal mucosa was fixed. Proctosigmoidoscopy was not possible because of the compromised rectal lumen, filled with soft-tissue pieces, which were sent for histopathological examination. Hemoglobin was 4.5 g/dL. Urine culture, TLC, fasting blood sugar, CEA, PSA and tests for HIV, were normal.

On transabdominal ultrasound, a solid-appearing, heteroechoic lesion was seen elevating the base of the urinary bladder. No cystic area or color flow was seen. Contrast enhanced CT revealed a large, heterogeneously enhancing solid lesion, inseparable from the base of the urinary bladder and compressing the rectum (**Figure 1**). The prostate gland and seminal vesicles could not be identified. There was absence of a part of the left rectal wall and air foci seen tracking into the lesion (**Figure 2**). Rounded, hypodense lesions in the liver; and pleural effusion with subpleural, enhancing, solid masses on the left side suggesting metastases, were also observed. The provisional diagnosis was prostatic leiomyosarcoma or rhabdomyosarcoma. A diverting loop transverse colostomy was made.

Histopathology revealed a normal rectal mucosa. Submucosa showed a mesenchymal tumor with large areas of necrosis and hemorrhage. No prostatic tissue was identified. Tumor showed positivity for CD117 and Vimentin; Epithelial membrane antigen was negative. A diagnosis of GIST was made based on histopathology and immunohistochemical studies. The patient was referred to an oncology center, where he has

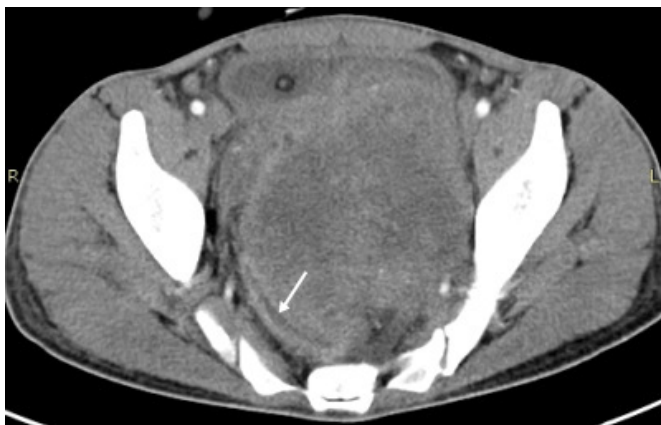


Figure 1: Contrast enhanced CT scan showing a large, fairly well defined, heterogeneously enhancing mass measuring 140 x 100 cms, in the pelvis. It is abutting the rectum, compressing and displacing it posterolaterally, towards right



Figure 2: A more caudal axial contrast CT scan showing absence of left wall of the rectum and a tract of air in the mass, suggesting fistulisation. Arrow marks the right wall of the rectum.

been prescribed Imatinib Mesylate.

Discussion

It is hypothesized that GISTs originate from mutations of the interstice of the Cajal cells, which are “pacemaker” cells from the gastrointestinal system. Recent studies have also revealed the presence of these cells inside the urinary tract’s interstice in smooth muscle cells from bladder, prostate and urethra.¹ Prostatic GIST may present with dysuria, urinary retention, rectal fullness or urinary obstructive symptoms.² Rectal GISTs can result in altered intestinal function, rectal bleeding in case of ulceration, abdominal pain, and urinary symptoms attributable to bladder compression. When located in the anterior wall of the rectum in male patients, they might cause difficulties in urination along with pelvic and perineal pain, producing symptoms similar to prostatism.

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