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Mohamed Hajri, Sahir Omrani, Hafedh Mestiri, Rached Bayar

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Disseminated hepatic and peritoneal hydatidosis mimicking acute abdomen

Mohamed Hajri*, Sahir Omrani, Hafedh Mestiri, Rached Bayar

Department of visceral surgery, Mongi Slim university hospital, Tunis, Tunisia

*Corresponding author. Email: hajrimed2013@gmail.com. (M. Hajri). Department of visceral surgery, Mongi Slim university hospital, Tunis, Tunisia.

A 61-year-old man was referred to our department for a 10 days history of diffuse abdominal pain with abdominal distension. He had a medical history of diabetes and hypertension. There was no history of change in bowel habits, vomiting or weight loss. On further questioning, he reported that his problem started twelve years ago when he started to have incremental abdominal distension with intermittent abdominal pain. Physical examination revealed apyrexia, normal heart rate and blood pressure. The abdomen was not tender to palpation but grossly distended, with multiple firm lobulations throughout the abdominal wall (Figure 1). Laboratory data were within normal limits. Abdominal CT scan showed multiple hydatid cysts at various stages of development, in the liver and within the peritoneal cavity. The spleen and the kidneys were not involved. Otherwise, CT scan did not show any abdominal effusion (Figure 2).

Disseminated abdominal hydatidosis is a rare presentation of hydatid disease (Acharya et Gupta 2010). Peritoneal implantation of daughter cysts usually occurs as a consequence of traumatic or surgical liver hydatid cyst rupture (Zaman, Rahim, et Uddin 2018). Early diagnosis and surgical management are the keys to avoiding such expansion and reducing
the morbidity and mortality associated with this disease (Muhrer 2021). In our case, no history of abdominal surgery or trauma was reported. Conservative treatment was decided considering the lesions' extent and the patient's refusal of any care.

Conflict of Interest:

No conflict of interest to declare.

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Written informed consent was obtained from the patient for the publication of this case report and the accompanying images.

References:


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**Fig. 1:** Physical examination showing a grossly distended abdomen with multiple firm lobulations throughout the abdominal wall.

**Fig. 2:** Abdominal CT scan showing multiple hydatid cysts at various stages of development, in the liver and within the peritoneal cavity.
Declaration of interests

☒ The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

☐ The authors declare the following financial interests/personal relationships which may be considered as potential competing interests: