Unusual presentation of pheochromocytoma mimicking liver paraganglioma

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Background: Pheochromocytoma is a rare neuroendocrine tumor that arises from the chromaffin cells of the adrenal medulla. We report a rare case of a woman in her 70s who presented to emergency department with symptoms of fatige , dizziness and weight loss . A diagnostic approach including a basic labs and CT scan showed a large hepatic lesion. For further characterisation of the mass, a biopsy of the lesion was performed, demonstrating that the tumour is of neuroendocrine origin. This was supported by a free metanephrine test showing high levels of catecholamine breakdown products. Treatment consisted of a unique multidisciplinary approach involving hepatobiliary and all owing a safe and complete extermination of the hepatic tumour, then underwent partial hepatectomy,and adrenalectomy .

Conclusion: Pheochromocytoma is a rare tumor, which can present with unusual manifestations such as severe abdominal pain. A high level of suspicion should be kept in mind to avoid any delay in diagnosing such a serious but treatable disease.

Key words : Pheochromocytoma, Presentation, etanephrine, Unusal

Biography

Hisham Alharbi is currently working in the department of electrical engineering, Taif University, Saudi Arabia.