

## A 24-Year-Old Man With Giddiness, Hemoptysis, and Skin Lesions\*

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(CHEST 2008; 134:1084–1087)

A 24-year-old man presented with a 3-month history of persistent severe giddiness, productive cough, hemoptysis, and ulcer over his sternum. His medical history was notable for a number of infections since childhood, which included inguinal lymphadenopathy, suppurative skin infections, *Penicillium* osteomyelitis of the scalp, pulmonary tuberculosis, and lupus vulgaris. His family history was noncontributory, and his development milestones were normal. His immunizations as a child were uneventful. His HIV status, which had been checked on multiple occasions, was negative.

### Physical Examination

The patient was cachectic, but his vital signs were unremarkable. He had multiple nodular skin lesions on his back and cheeks. There were no palpable lymph nodes. A deep ulcer, 4 × 5 cm in size, with overhanging edges and necrotic tissue in its floor, was present above the sternum, visibly involving the underlying bone. The results of a respiratory system examination were notable for diffuse coarse crackles. The findings of a neurologic examination were notable for an ataxic gait with positive cerebellar signs.

### Laboratory and Radiographic Findings

The results of a laboratory evaluation were notable for hypoalbuminemia (serum albumin concentration,

1.8 g/dL), a total leukocyte count of 8,700 cells/ $\mu$ L (72% neutrophils, 16% lymphocytes, 10% monocytes, and 2% eosinophils). The erythrocyte sedimentation rate was 26 mm/h. The patient's CD4+ count was 622/ $\mu$ L, and his CD8+ count was 624/ $\mu$ L. His Ig levels were normal.

A chest radiograph revealed bilateral fibrotic scars, which a thoracic CT scan revealed as bilateral areas of bronchiectasis (Fig 1, top, A) with sternal osteomyelitis (Fig 1, bottom, B). MRI of the brain demonstrated ring-enhancing lesions in the cerebellar vermis and left frontal lobe (Fig 2).

The patient underwent a midline suboccipital craniotomy and decompression of the posterior fossa lesion, a culture from a sample of which grew *Aspergillus fumigatus*. He underwent sternal debridement with a pectoralis major flap; a culture of a tissue sample grew *Penicillium* species. A diagnostic biopsy of a nodule on the patient's back was performed, which revealed suppurative granulomatous dermatitis; after 6 weeks, a culture from the biopsy sample was sterile. A bronchoscopy with BAL was performed; a culture of the BAL fluid sample grew *Mycobacterium chelonae*.

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DOI: 10.1378/chest.08-0393

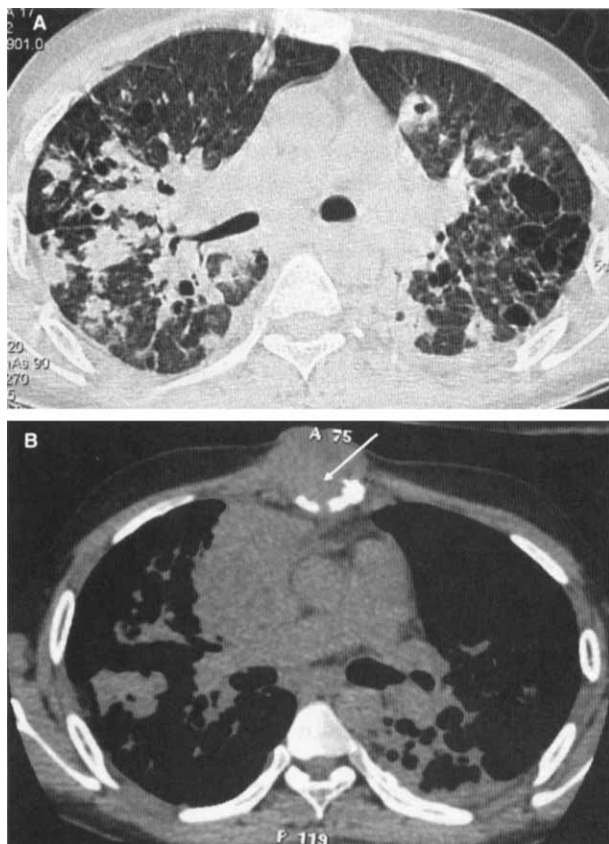


FIGURE 1. *Top, A:* CT scan of the chest demonstrating bilateral bronchiectasis. *Bottom, B:* CT scan of the chest demonstrating sternal osteomyelitis (arrow).



FIGURE 2. MRI of the brain demonstrating ring-enhancing lesions.

*What is the unifying diagnosis?*

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