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Case Report

Clinical case report: Sclerosing hemangioma of the liver, a rare but great mimicker

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ABSTRACT

Atypical hemangioma (including sclerosing and/or hyalinizing hemangioma) of the liver is a rare variant of hepatic hemangioma, which is the most common benign hepatic tumor. Atypical hemangioma can be indistinguishable from malignancy, primary, or metastatic, based on imaging characteristics. We describe a case of a 70-year-old man with weight loss, occasional bloody stool, change in caliber of stool, and laboratory abnormalities who was found to have multiple hepatic lesions concerning for metastases. We demonstrate that knowledge of the appearance of atypical hemangioma and its inclusion in the differential diagnosis of hepatic lesions can alter patient management and be important to consider before invasive therapies are planned.

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Case report

The patient is a 70-year-old man who was sent by his gastroenterologist to the emergency department for evaluation of weakness and dehydration. The patient had been constipated with dark coffee color stool and occasional blood per rectum as well as change in the caliber of stool for the last few months. He had an unintentional 29 pound weight loss in the last 3 months. The patient also reports new onset of polyuria and polydipsia.

In the emergency department, the patient had a blood glucose level of 722 mg/dL and creatinine of 2.0 mg/dL. His last

colonoscopy was 6 years earlier, which showed tubular adenoma, hyperplastic polyp.

The history and new onset diabetes raised concern for a tumor of gastrointestinal origin.

Contrast-enhanced computed tomography (CT) scan of the abdomen and the pelvis was obtained. This demonstrated 4 heterogeneous hypodense lesions in the right hepatic lobe, concerning for metastasis. These lesions demonstrated peripheral heterogeneous enhancement in the portal venous phase (Figs. 1 and 2). In addition, there was circumferential prominence of the distal rectal wall, which was thought to be either due to collapsed state and/or an underlying mass

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Fig. 1 – Contrast-enhanced computed tomography of the abdomen and the pelvis in soft tissue window demonstrates multiple heterogeneous hypodense lesions in the liver with peripheral heterogeneous ring enhancement.

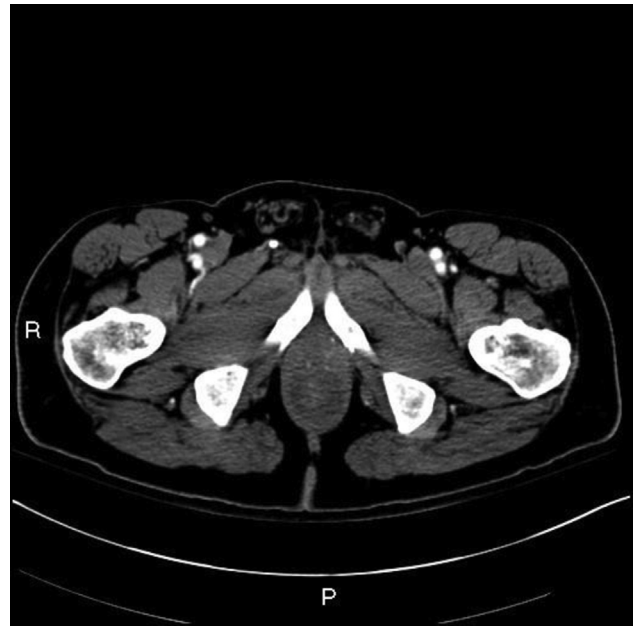


Fig. 3 – Contrast-enhanced computed tomography of the abdomen and the pelvis demonstrates circumferential thickening of the distal rectal wall.

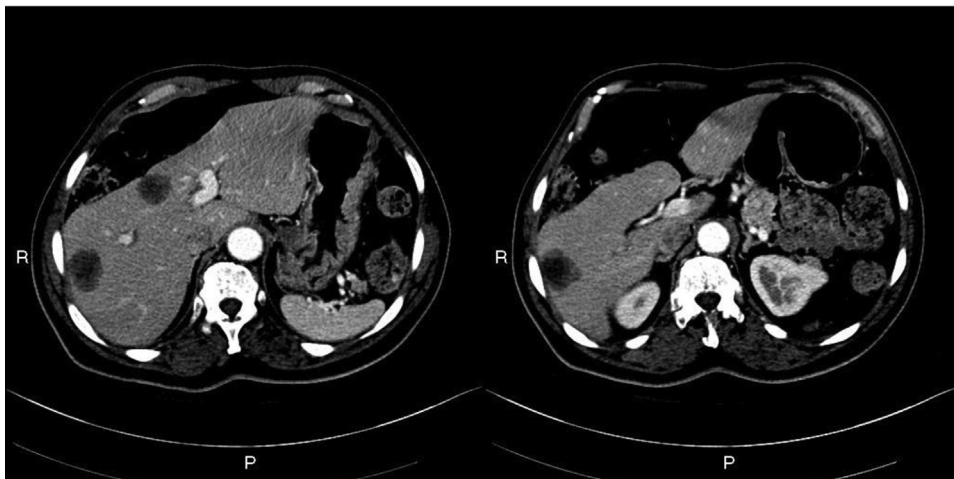
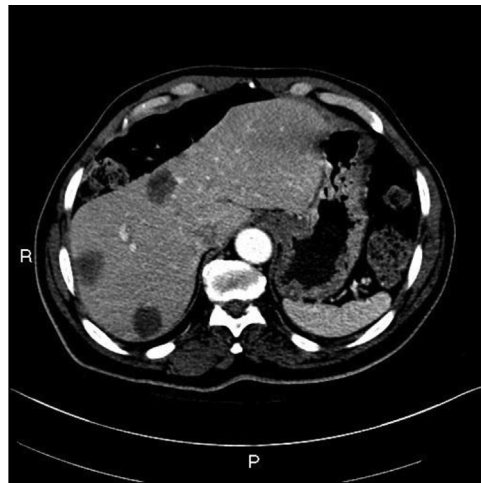


Fig. 2 – Contrast-enhanced portal venous phase computed tomography of the abdomen and the pelvis in liver window demonstrates 4 heterogeneous hypodense lesions in the liver with peripheral heterogeneous ring enhancement.

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