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CLINICAL PRACTICE

Elastofibroma – an uncommon cause of upper limbs pain

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A female patient age 65 came to our clinic forcontinuous pain of the upper limbs (left more than right), increased when moving the scapulae. Patient declared that in the past few months the dorsal decubit became gradually painful and she cannot achive a good sleep. One year ago patient was diagnosed with bilateral suprascapular lipoma and a surgical removal was proposed.

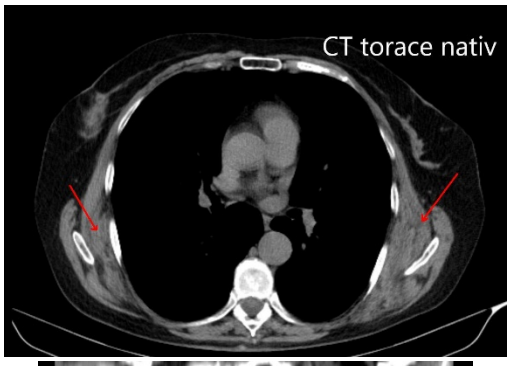
At the visual examination, we found two well-circumscribed suprascapular tumor mobile with arms movements. At palpation, we noticed that each scapula was pushed from below from an underlying tumor with a very firm consistency.

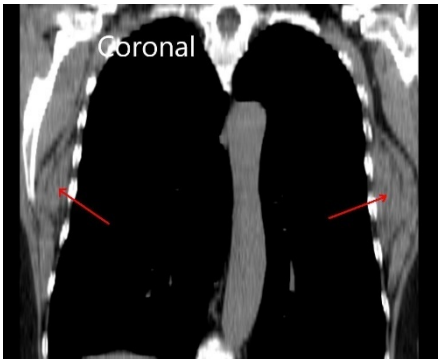
Figure 1: Clinical aspects

Chest radiography was normal.

A CT scan of torax was performed and revealed two subscapular unencapsulated, soft tissue masses with skeletal muscle attenuation interspersed with strands of fat attenuation [1, 2].

Figure 2: CT aspects





The patient was directed to thoracic surgery and the tumors were removed. The histological findings were consistent with the diagnosis of elastofibroma [3]. The recovery period was long, allmost two months passed before complete healing.

The long period needed for healing, usually burdened with local complications and the fact that the tumor is benign makes the surgery not recommendable for the patients with

no discomfort or impared arms movement [4].

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