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Pneumocystis pneumonia mimicking lung metastasis in a HIV- positive patient with metastatic follicular thyroid cancer

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The lung is a common site for metastasis from follicular thyroid cancer. Pneumocystis pneumonia is a fungal lung infection commonly seen in HIV-positive patients. The clinical presentation and radiological features of pneumocystis pneumonia and lung metastasis from follicular thyroid cancer are very similar and often indistinguishable, however, their management differs. Pneumocystis pneumonia is treated with a simple course of antibiotics, while lung metastasis from follicular thyroid cancer requires high dose therapy with radioactive I-131. In patients with metastatic follicular thyroid cancer that are HIV-positive presenting with lung infiltrations, it is important to make a proper diagnosis in order to institute appropriate and prompt treatment. We present an unusual case of a pneumocystis pneumonia mimicking lung metastasis in a HIV-positive patient with stage-IV follicular thyroid cancer. To our knowledge, this is the first documented case of a HIV-positive patient with metastatic follicular thyroid cancer presenting with pneumocystis pneumonia mimicking lung metastasis. The rarity of this case and the importance of creating awareness among clinician of the existence of this disease are emphasized.

Biography

Jawa Zabah Muhammad is a Senior Consultant in Nuclear Medicine and European Board Certified in Nuclear Medicine. He has dual specialist qualifications in Nuclear Medicine and Radiology and received his training at the Stellenbosch University. He is a fellow of the College of Radiologist of Nigeria, fellow of the South African College of Nuclear Physicians, fellow of the European Board of Nuclear Medicine. He has presented papers at various national and international conferences. In 2013, his research presentation received an award of distinction at the IMIC conference in Vienna, Austria. He is the Chief Editor of the *MDCAN Journal of Medical Sciences*

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