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De-differentiated myxofibrosarcoma metastasis in the right atrium

Myxofibrosarcoma is one of the most common soft-tissue sarcomas arising in the limbs of elderly patients. Description of this tumor in the literature reported that the commonest sites for metastases are lymph nodes and lungs, but no case reports to date describe solitary metastasis to the heart from peripheral myxofibrosarcoma lesions.

Herein, we present the first case report of metastasis of peripheral myxofibrosarcoma to the heart of a 53-year-old female with equivocal non-invasive and -invasive diagnostic tests, in whom the final diagnosis was made through exploratory surgery.

The positron emission tomography–computed tomography scans and cardiac magnetic resonance imaging revealed the mass in the right atrium as well as allowing an in-depth insight in tumour growth, size, site and extent. Echocardiographic evaluation was beneficial in confirming the tumour and predicting clinical outcome. Unfortunately transvenous endomyocardial biopsies of the tumour were non-diagnostic. Thus a more invasive but diagnostic approach to the right atrial mass was required via an open surgery, to obtain a definitive histological diagnosis.

This case demonstrates the complexity of pairing multi-modality imaging and invasive techniques to achieve tissue characterization and diagnosis. Despite advances in multimodality investigations and increasing treatment options, the case presented a number of diagnostic and management challenges. Further translational studies are warranted to improve the diagnostic yield and choice of therapy.

Biography

Sarah Verhemel, MBChB, MRCP is originally from The Netherlands where she attended premed Biomedical Science at the University of Amsterdam. She earned her medical degree and graduated Cum Laude from 6th of October University, Cairo, Egypt. She then went on to complete her residency in The University Hospital of Antwerp, Belgium and gained research skills by doing a scientific internship at Utrecht Medical Centre. She has a particular interest in Cardiology and attended during medical school an elective in St. Thomas London, which persuaded her to continue her career in Cardiology.

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