Case 3837

Idiopathic Massive Retroperitoneal Hematoma: A Case Report

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Section: Abdominal imaging
Case Type: Clinical Cases
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Patient: 75 years, female

Clinical History:

A 75 year-old woman was brought to our hospital with a clinical situation of acute abdomen. Her ultrasound (US) exam revealed a huge abdominal mass.

Imaging Findings:

A 75 year-old woman was brought to the ER of our hospital with severe abdominal crampy pain. Her story revealed the presence of abdominal pain during the last week; with episodes of peaks. Her erect X-ray didn't indicate any specific abnormality. At ultrasound (US) however, a huge solid mass was seen in the abdomen. Computed tomography (CT) verified this finding, and gave additional data; the mass was located retroperitoneally and it was also pushing the kidneys anteriorly. This finding was very well demonstrated at the reconstructed images. There was no specific clinical history which could be of any help to the diagnosis, except a two-week old history of a severe fall from a staircase. The patient was operated; and a huge retroperitoneal hematoma was evacuated. No definitive tumoral or vascular structural abnormality was found at the operation; and we came to the conclusion that the patient should have had a vascular tear during her fall from a staircase. She is doing well now.

Discussion:

Massive retroperitoneal hemorrhages are usually due to the rupture of tumoral or vascular structures; and usually there is an underlying clinical systemic abnormality, such as an adrenal tumor, a renal cyst, or a vascular abnormality. Idiopathic massive bleedings may be seen, although infrequently, and they are assumed to be due to severe traumas. Outcomes may be fatal; but our case survived, mainly due to the detection and operation of the pathology on time.

Differential Diagnosis List: Idiopathic massive retroperitoneal hematoma.

Final Diagnosis: Idiopathic massive retroperitoneal hematoma.

References:


Description: US shows a huge solid mass with heterogenous echostructure. Origin:
Description: Another US view of the mass. Origin:
Figure 3

Description: CT shows the mass lesion in detail. Origin:
Figure 4

Description: Another CT image of the lesion. Origin:
Description: The massive retroperitoneal mass pushes the kidney anteriorly. This is a sagitally reformatted CT image. Origin: