

Case Report**RARE CASE REPORT OF MATURE MESENTERIC TERATOMA IN A 35-YEAR-OLD FEMALE****Manmohan Bir Shrestha, Umesh Kumar Sharma, Suraj Thapaliya, Jayanti Limbu**Department of Radiology & Imaging, B & C Medical College Teaching Hospital and Research Center, Birtamode, Jhapa, Nepal**Submitted: 29-July-2022, Revised: 16-September-2022, Accepted: 27-September-2022**DOI: <https://doi.org/10.3126/mjen.v1i02.51164>***ABSTRACT**

Teratomas are germ cell tumors that usually occur in the gonads, and present in early age group. Mesenteric teratoma is rare. Patients with mesenteric teratoma may remain asymptomatic or may present with compressive symptoms. Teratomas contain derivatives of all three germ layers, hence may contain diverse tissues. Computed tomography (CT) scan is ideal to establish the diagnosis of mesenteric teratoma, and reveal fluid, fat, calcifications, fat-fluid level. This is a case of 35-year-old female, who presented with upper abdominal pain for 2 months. She underwent Computed Tomography (CT) scan which revealed large well circumscribed mass in left upper abdomen, containing fluid, fat, and globular calcifications. Size of the lesion was: craniocaudal dimension= 12 centimeter, transverse diameter = 10 centimeter, anteroposterior diameter = 10 centimeter. Patient was managed by complete surgical resection. Histopathological examination confirmed the diagnosis of mature teratoma of mesentery.


Keywords: Computed tomography, Germ cell tumor, Mesenteric teratoma**INTRODUCTION**

Teratomas are germ cell tumors that contain derivatives of all three germ layers, i.e. ectoderm, mesoderm and endoderm. Teratomas usually occur in gonads, and rarely occur in extragonadal sites along the midline of body. Less common sites are: sacrococcygeal region, cranium, mediastinum, retroperitoneum and mesentery. Occurrence of human germ cell teratomas along the midline of the body is explained by the migration of primitive germ cells (1, 2, 10). The origin of the word "teratoma" is from Greek word "terato", which means monster (3). Teratomas occurring in the mesentery and retroperitoneum are extremely rare and accounts only 4-6% of all

teratomas (4). Patients with abdominal teratoma may remain asymptomatic, or may present with compressive symptoms. Computed tomography (CT) scan is well suited for the diagnostic evaluation of mesenteric teratoma, and is highly specific in the detection of fat, fluid, calcifications, fat-fluid level (5). Here, we report a case of mature mesenteric teratoma in a 35-year-old female who was managed by complete surgical resection.

CASE REPORT

A 35-year-old female patient presented in emergency department with complaints of upper abdominal pain for 2 months. Physical examination revealed a large



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mass in left upper abdomen. Mass was firm in consistency, with well defined borders. Then, the patient underwent Computed tomography (CT) of abdomen. Computed tomography (CT) scan revealed large well circumscribed oval mixed density lesion in left upper abdomen, containing fluid, fat, and calcifications (Figure 1, 2, 3). The lesion was intraperitoneal in location. The lesion was well marginated and minimally compressing the surrounding structures without evidence of invasion. Posteriorly, the lesion was abutting left renal vessels and anterior surface of left kidney (Figure 3). On left side, the lesion was abutting descending colon (Figure 3). Size of the lesion was: craniocaudal dimension= 12 centimeter, transverse diameter = 10 centimeter, anteroposterior diameter = 10 centimeter. Patient was managed by complete surgical resection and the entire tumor was excised. Histopathological examination revealed mature teratoma of the mesentery (Figure 4, 5).

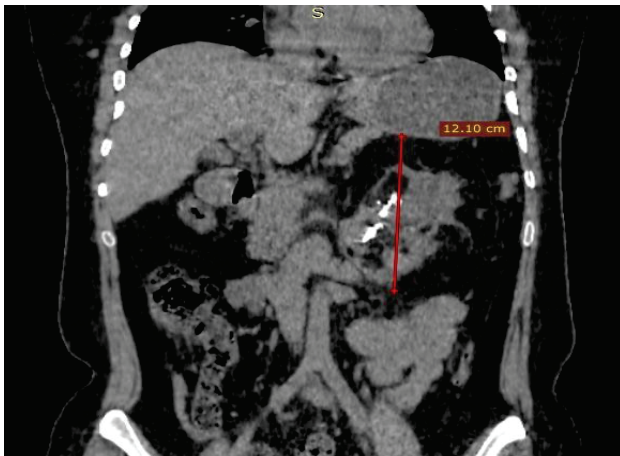


Figure 1: Non-contrast coronal Computed tomography (CT) image shows large well marginated oval mixed density mass in left upper abdomen, below stomach. Areas of fluid density, fat and globular calcifications seen in the lesion.

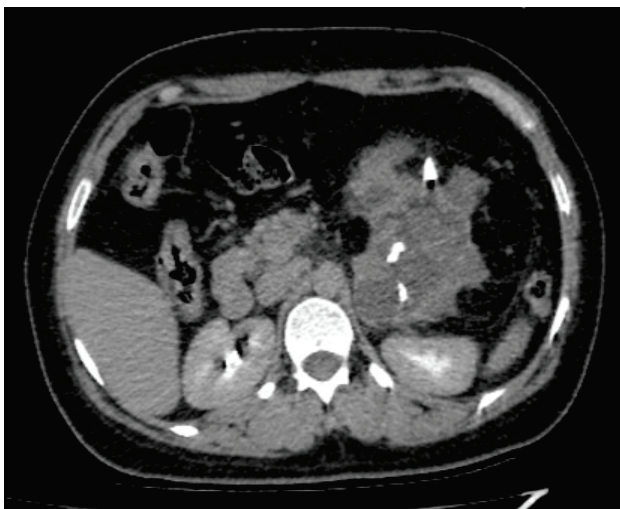


Figure 2: Contrast enhanced axial Computed tomography (CT) image shows well circumscribed lesion in left upper abdomen, containing areas of fluid, fat and calcifications.



Figure 3: Contrast enhanced axial Computed tomography (CT) image revealed well circumscribed oval mixed density lesion (containing fat, fluid, and calcifications) in left upper abdomen. Posteriorly, the lesion is abutting left renal vessels and anterior surface of left kidney. On left side, the lesion is abutting descending colon.

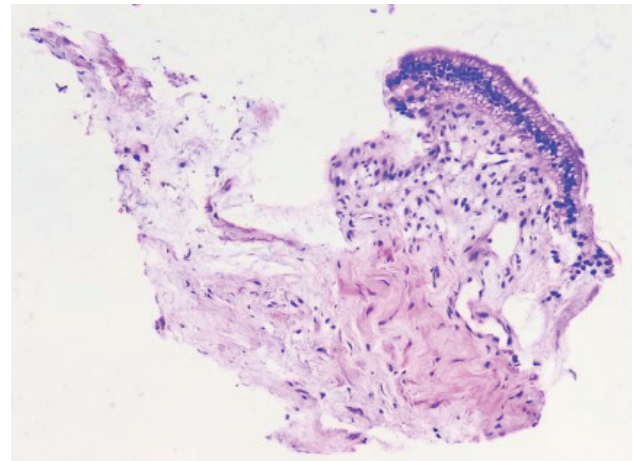


Figure 4: Hematoxylin-eosin section of mesenteric teratoma showing mucinous columnar lining epithelium.

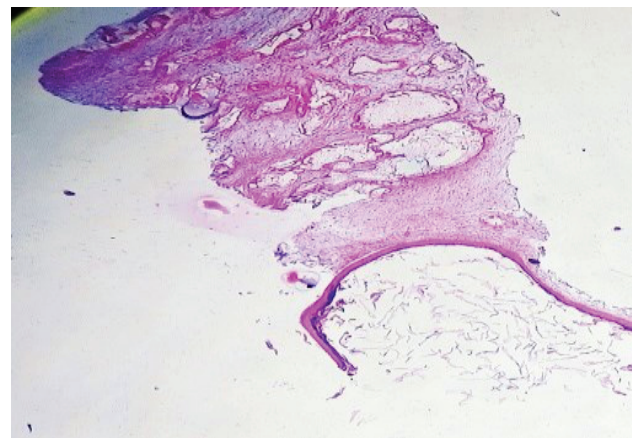


Figure 5: Hematoxylin-eosin section of mesenteric taratoma showing skin and adnexa with calcified bone.

DISCUSSION

Teratomas are germ cell tumors that usually occur in gonads. Extragonadal occurrence of teratoma is rare, and occurrence of abdominal teratoma only accounts 4-6% (4). Other extragonadal sites of teratoma other than retroperitoneum & mesentery are: cranium, mediastinum, and sacrococcygeal region (1, 10). Teratoma commonly occurs in the early age group. Mature mesenteric teratoma in adulthood is extremely rare (6, 7, 11).

Patients with mesenteric teratoma may remain asymptomatic. Mesentery offers sufficient space for considerable tumor growth before symptoms can appear, particularly if the lesion is near the root of the mesentery (8). Symptoms of mesenteric teratoma are non-specific, and may depend on its size. Patients may present with abdominal swelling when the mass is large, or may present with compressive symptoms, most commonly constipation or vomiting (9).

Teratomas are tumors that arise from pluripotent cells, and composed of multiple diverse tissues, that may be foreign to their anatomical site of origin. As mesente-

ric teratomas are usually well circumscribed, it is important to establish a pre-operative diagnosis for elective surgical treatment. Mesenteric teratomas are well marginated mass with variable amount of fluid content, and possessing areas of fat and calcification. Computed tomography (CT) scan is well suited cross-sectional imaging techniques for the evaluation of mesenteric teratoma. And Computed tomography (CT) scan is highly specific for detection of fat and calcification (5).

CONCLUSION

Occurrence of mesenteric teratoma in older age is rare. Mesenteric teratoma is one of the less common sites of occurrence of extragonadal teratoma. Computed tomography (CT) is the best imaging modality to demonstrate fat, fluid, calcification, fat-fluid levels in teratoma. Our case highlights the importance of considering mesenteric teratoma in differential diagnosis of intra-abdominal masses.

Conflict of interest: None

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