AMSER Case of the Month August 2023

12-year-old female with bilateral chest, back, and axillae pain

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Patient Presentation

 HPI: 12-year-old female with history of osteosarcoma of the left lower leg status post left above knee amputation performed at her home country without adjuvant chemotherapy. She initially presented to an outside hospital several months later in the US on a visit to her family with fever, cough, chest pain, back, and rib pain. She was found to have numerous calcifications on CXR and further imaging/lab workup compatible with metastatic disease. She was started on chemotherapy with minimal response and was referred to our hospital for a second opinion.



Patient Presentation

- Medical History: Osteosarcoma of the left lower leg, pulmonary embolism
- Surgical History: Left above knee amputation
- Medications: Bactrim 600-120 mg daily Lovenox 120 mg BID, Gabapentin 50 mg TID, Ativan 1 mg q8h prn, Scopolamine patch q3 days, Zofran 8 mg q8h prn, Miralax daily prn, Tylenol 650 mg q4h prn, Marinol 2.5 mg daily,
- Allergies: No known drug allergies
- ROS: fever, cough, shortness of breath, chest pain, extremity pain
- Vitals: Afebrile, HR 120-140s, RR 20s
- Physical exam: Diminished breath sounds on the left. Large palpable masses in the right breast/axilla and left medial breast. Left above knee amputation.



Pertinent Labs

Hospitalization prior to referral to our institution:

- CBC: Hgb 7.1, WBC 8.6, Platelets 308
- BMP unremarkable
- Blood cultures +staph epidermidis with repeats negative (likely contaminant)



What Imaging Should We Order?



Select the applicable ACR Appropriateness Criteria

Variant 2:Acute respiratory illnesses in immunocompetent patients with positive physical examination, abnormal vital signs, organic brain disease, or other risk factors. Initial imaging.			
Procedure	Appropriateness Category	Relative Radiation Level	
Radiography chest	Usually Appropriate	•	
US chest	May Be Appropriate	0	
CT chest with IV contrast	Usually Not Appropriate	* * *	
CT chest without and with IV contrast	Usually Not Appropriate	* *	
CT chest without IV contrast	Usually Not Appropriate	\$ \$ \$	
MRI chest without and with IV contrast	Usually Not Appropriate	0	
MRI chest without IV contrast	Usually Not Appropriate	0	







Select the applicable ACR Appropriateness Criteria

Variant 2: Indeterminate mediastinal mass on radiography. Next imaging study.			
Procedure		Appropriateness Category	Relative Radiation Level
MRI chest without and with IV contrast		Usually Appropriate	0
MRI chest without IV contrast		Usually Appropriate	0
CT chest with IV contrast		Usually Appropriate	₩₩₩
CT chest without IV contrast		Usually Appropriate	€ €
US chest		Usually Not Appropriate	0
Image-guided transthoracic needle biopsy		Usually Not Appropriate	Varies
CT chest without and with IV contrast		Usually Not Appropriate	€€€
FDG-PET/CT skull base to mid-thigh		Usually Not Appropriate	€€€€



















Images (unlabeled)

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Tumor thrombus versus external compression from adjacent tumor involving superior vena cava

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RMSER

































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Final Dx:

Metastatic Osteosarcoma



• Etiology: Osteosarcoma is the third most common primary cancer in adolescence that most often affects the long bones of the upper and lower extremity. Osteosarcoma currently accounts for 20% of bone cancers while the five year survival rate for distant metastases of osteosarcoma is currently 24%. This case is consistent with significant and diffuse metastasis of an osteosarcoma originating in the left lower extremity.



- Pathophysiology: Osteosarcoma primary tumors typically occur near the metaphysis of long bones of the appendicular skeleton. The most common locations include the femur, tibia, and humerus.
- Clinical features: bone pain and tenderness
- Primary vs. secondary tumors
 - Primary tumors usually occur in the metaphysis of long bones, the vast majority of primary tumors are seen in children and adolescents
 - Secondary tumors are more widely distributed and are commonly seen in flat bones, particularly the pelvis. Secondary tumors almost always occur in the adult population



- Metastasis: classical high-grade osteosarcoma of the extremity is more likely to metastasize compared to low grade parosteal osteosarcomas
- The lung is the most common site of metastasis, while metastasis to soft tissue and other solid organs is exceedingly rare.
- While 15% of patients will have detectable lung metastases at diagnosis, renal metastases usually go undetected.



Diagnosis: Initially, radiography is used to identify osteosarcoma in the primary tumor site. Additionally, thoracic CT scan is used detect metastasis to pulmonary sites. Finally, biopsy of primary tumor confirms diagnosis and allows for grading of the lesion.

Differential diagnosis: Osteomyelitis, fibrosarcoma, giant cell tumor

Treatment: Combinatorial strategies employing methotrexate, doxorubicin, and cisplatin are currently used to treat osteosarcoma.



Significance

 The significance of this case is highlighting the diffuse osteosarcoma metastases to various tissues, including the exceedingly rare metastases to the liver and kidney.



References:

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