ISSN: 2376-0249

Vol 7 • Iss 10 • 1000719 October, 2020

Clinical-Medical Image

Small Bowell Lymphoma: Aneurysmal Pattern

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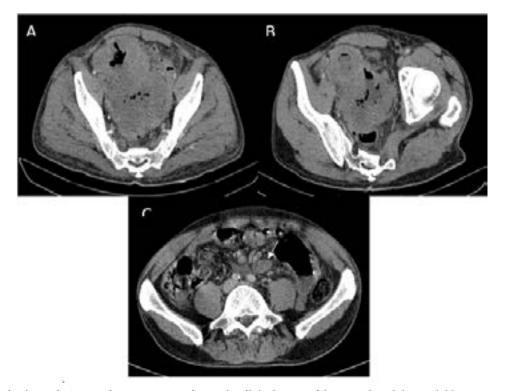


Figure 1: Abdominal enhanced CT scan showing a circumferential wall thickening of ileum, with endoluminal dilation containing fluid and air (Images A and B), associated with large lymph nodes (white arrow on Image C).

Clinical Image

Small bowel lymphoma is the second most common gastro-intestinal lymphoma with a 20% to 30% rate; mostly found whithin the ileum rather than the jejunum. B-cells lymphomas are more frequent and T-cells are mostly associated with entheropaty. Clinical features aren't specific and usually cause a delay of diagnosis. It can be studied in enteroscopy or radiological imaging, through CT or CT enterography that allow diagnosis, staging and post treatment evaluation. One of the most typical radiological features is the aneurysmal pattern. It was first described by Cupps et al. in 1969, and is caused by a replacement of muscularis propria and the destruction of the autonomic nerve plexus by the lymphoma. It will be shown in CT as a circumferential wall thickening of small bowel loop, with endoluminal dilation and air fluid levels inside and it is mostly associated with enlarged lymph nodes and infiltration of mensenteric fat (Figure 1).

Keywords: Aneurysmal pattern; Lymphoma; Small bowel

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