

Clinica-Medical Image

Accuracy of SPECT-CT Imaging in the Diagnosis of a Dual Ectopic Thyroid: A Case Report

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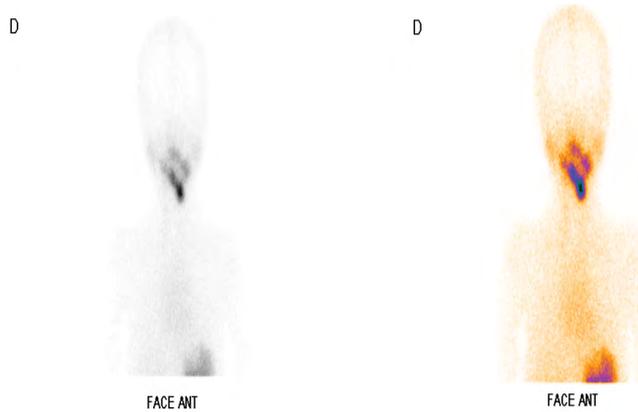


Figure 1: Static image of Thyroid Scintigraphy after an I.V. injection of 16 MBq (0.34 mCi) of ^{99m}Tc showing an ectopic thyroid gland in a high cervical position

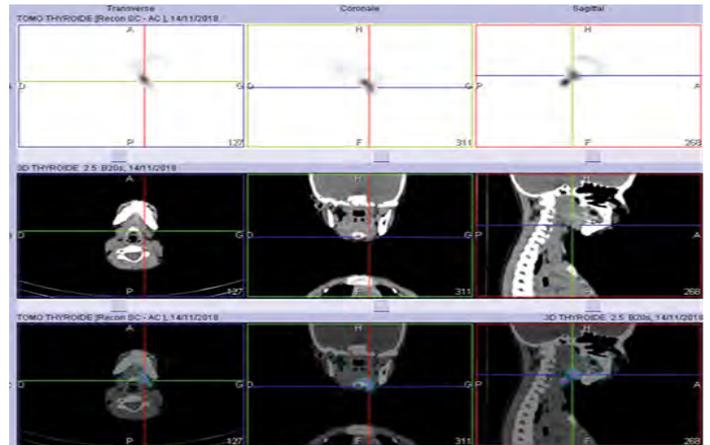


Figure 2: SPECT/ CT imaging showing a basic-lingual thyroid tissue lateralized on the left.

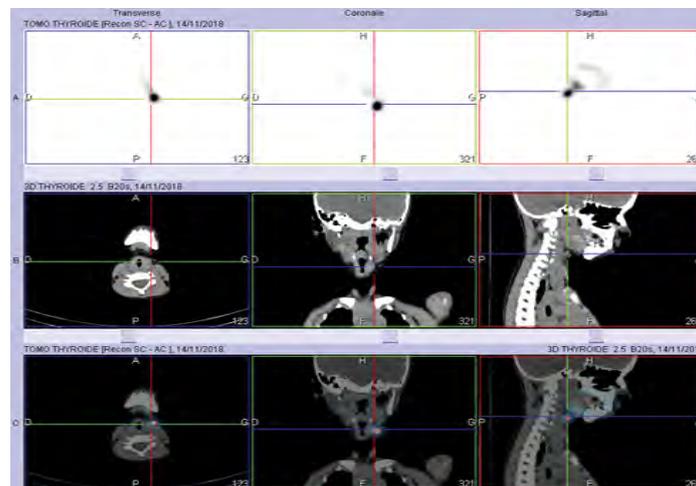


Figure 3: SPECT/CT imaging showing a left Peri-laryngeal thyroid tissue.

Clinical Image

Ectopic Thyroid is a rare condition associated with a failure of thyroid gland migration during embryonic development in which the thyroid tissue is in a site other than the pre-tracheal location. It may be asymptomatic or manifest as clinical or biological hypothyroidism. We report herein the case of a 9-year-old preadolescent girl, with no notable medical history addressed in nuclear medicine department for an exploration of a hypothyroidism with growth delay. The TSH level was at 22.6 μ U/ ml. The clinical examination found a girl in good condition, a weight of 15 kg (-3SD) and a height of 114 cm (-3SD). The physical examination and the cervical ultrasound did not found thyroid tissue in the thyroid

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lodge. The diagnosis CT scan concluded that there was no thyroid in the normal position with a doubt about the presence of thyroid tissue in upper cervical position on the left peri-laryngeal region. Thyroid scintigraphy showed an ectopic thyroid tissue in a high cervical position, with a fairly intense uptake but without the possibility of localization. A Complement with SPECT /CT imaging was performed and allowed the diagnosis of a dual ectopic thyroid tissue on basilingual and left peri-laryngeal position. This case testifies the accuracy of SPECT CT imaging in the diagnosis of a dual ectopic thyroid.

Keywords:

Thyroid ectopia; Ultrasound; CT scan; Thyroid scintigraphy; SPECT/CT imaging