

Secondary Calcinosis of the Foot

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Iatrogenic hypercalcemia with secondary renal chronic failure in hypoparathyroidism has been described¹, but not with presence of secondary tumoral calcinosis, which rarely occurs in the foot.

A 43-year-old woman presented with a growing swelling of the dorsal side of her right foot that she had had for a few months (Figure 1). The tumefaction was hard and inflammatory without skin injury. Her medical history revealed a thyroidectomy with secondary hypoparathyroidism treated with calcium and vitamin D supplementation for years. Biological investigations found an unknown renal failure associated with hypercalcemia.

Radiograph and then computed tomography (CT) scan of the foot showed amorphous and multilobulated calcifications (4 × 4.5 cm) in a periarticular distribution around the base of the third toe, showing a “faveolate” or “cloud-like” aspect (Figure 2) with respect to the cortical bone. The CT scan showed equally hydrocalciic levels formed into lobules (Figure 3). Magnetic resonance imaging showed a mass of the soft parts infiltrating the adjacent muscles, with hyposignal in T1-weighted sequences. After injection of gadolinium, the typical aspect of partitioning of the lesion is observed within this hyposignal zone (Figure 4). Surgical

excision was performed and pathology analysis was in favor of calcinosis without malignancy.

Cases of iatrogenic hypercalcemia with secondary renal chronic failure in the context of postsurgical hypoparathyroidism have been described¹, but to our knowledge this is the first case with presence of secondary tumoral calcinosis. Secondary tumoral calcinosis is classically described in systemic sclerosis and in secondary hyperparathyroidism related to chronic renal failure in patients receiving hemodialysis, with the most common locations on hips or shoulders, but rarely on the foot².

REFERENCES

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Figure 1. Tumefaction of the foot.



Figure 2. Tumoral calcinosis aspect on radiograph.



Figure 3. Tumoral calcinosis aspect on computed tomography scan.

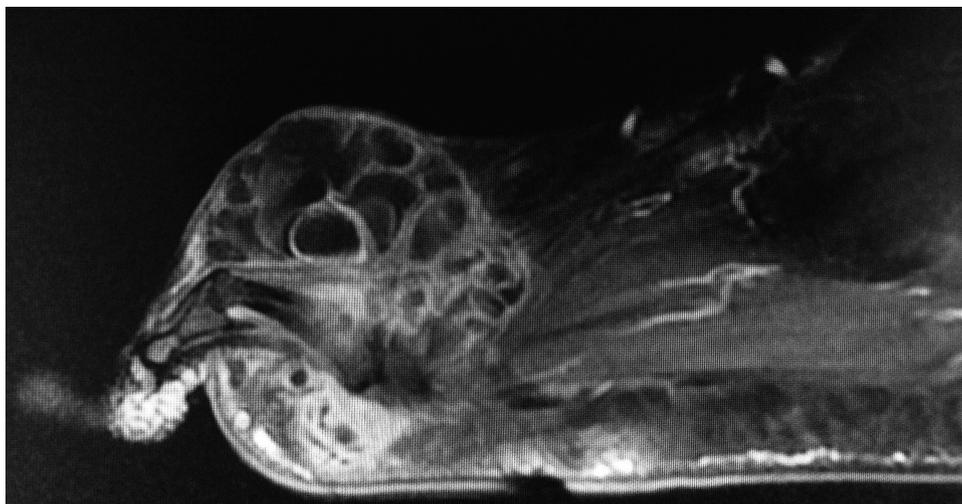


Figure 4. Magnetic resonance imaging aspect (sagittal T1 fat-saturated gadolinium sequence).