



Initial biochemical results were all within normal range: calcium 2.41 mmol/L, phosphate 1.0 mmol/L, ALP 84 U/L, TSH 1.83 m IU/L, FT4 14.8 pmol/L and i-PTH 4.8 pmol/L. Overnight dexamethasone suppression test was appropriately suppressed (15 nmol/L). Her vitamin D level was insufficient at 51 nmol/L. Radiography confirmed T10 vertebral compression fracture and her DEXA scan revealed that she is osteoporotic with spine Z-score -3.2, and femur Z-score -3.5.

She was managed with oral cholecalciferol 1000 units daily and calcium carbonate 500 mg twice daily as she preferred to not use any anti-resorptive agent. Her back pain improved after cessation of lactation and with analgesics.

CONCLUSION

PLO is a rare condition and should be suspected in pregnant women who complain of back pain to ensure early diagnosis and intervention. Secondary causes of osteoporosis need to be ruled out as well.

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SEVERE HYPERCALCEMIA UNMASKS A CAMOUFLAGED PARATHYROID CARCINOMA

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INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND

Parathyroid carcinoma is an exceedingly rare endocrine malignancy and an uncommon cause of primary hyperparathyroidism. We report a case of severe hyperparathyroidism which required urgent surgery and unveiled a parathyroid carcinoma.

CASE

A 31-year-old Malay female, who initially presented with severe epigastric pain and vomiting, was treated for acute pancreatitis in the surgical ward. There was no history of alcohol consumption. Biochemistry results showed acute renal impairment, hypercalcemia (corrected Ca2+ 4.06 mmol/L), hypophosphatemia (PO43- 0.38 mmol/L), elevated serum amylase (370 U/L) and urine diastase (663 U/L). However, no sonographic evidence of cholelithiasis was found. She was referred to the medical team for further investigations which revealed primary hyperparathyroidism with vitamin D deficiency (iPTH 705 pg/ml, 25 (OH) vitamin D 25 nmol/L, alkaline phosphatase 543 U/L). Clinically, no neck mass was observed but the neck detected a TIRADS 5 nodule in the right thyroid. Given

the discordant clinical and sonographic findings, Tc99m Sestamibi SPECT/CT was arranged but she defaulted. Subsequently, she was admitted for severe hypercalcemia manifesting as severe bone pain and requiring salineforced diuresis and intravenous zolendronic acid. Tc99m Sestamibi SPECT/CT scan demonstrated a parathyroid adenoma measuring 2.2 x 2.6 x 2.9 cm posterior to the right thyroid gland. Further imaging work-up showed bilateral medullary nephrocalcinosis and osteopenia. She underwent urgent right hemithyroidectomy, right superior parathyroidectomy and central neck dissection successfully. Postoperatively she developed hungry bone syndrome which required intravenous calcium infusion together with high dose activated vitamin D and calcium supplements. Histopathological report confirmed the diagnosis of parathyroid carcinoma with lymphovascular and capsular invasion. Postoperatively she was scheduled for PET-CT scan but she defaulted the follow-up. She is currently pregnant.

CONCLUSION

Parathyroid carcinoma is an indolent but progressive disease. Surgery is the mainstay of treatment. Early detection with attempts to remove local recurrence and distant metastasis can provide good short- and long-term control.

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SEVERE HUNGRY BONE SYNDROME, COULD WE HAVE PROGNOSTICATED IT BETTER? A CASE SERIES

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INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND

Hungry bone syndrome (HBS) is characterized by serum calcium less than 2.1 mmol/L and/or prolonged hypocalcaemia more than four days following parathyroidectomy or thyroidectomy. Here, we report two cases of HBS following parathyroidectomy for primary hyperparathyroidism (PHPT).

CASE 1

A 17-year-old female was diagnosed with PHPT when she presented with bilateral femoral neck and humeral fractures. Her serum calcium was 3.69 (2.2-2.65 mmol/L),