XANTHOGANULATEOUS PYELONEPHRITIS PRESENTING AS ABDOMINAL MASS IN A MALE PATIENT
Velam Venkatashaphethi MD, Thapalia Usha MD, Nayyar Ekta MD, MS, Kulshrestha Manisha MD
Department of Internal Medicine, St. Barnabas Hospital, Bronx, NY

INTRODUCTION

Xanthogranulomatous pyelonephritis (XGP) is an uncommon variant of chronic pyelonephritis that occurs in the presence of obstruction and suppuration of renal parenchyma. The mass effect due to the lesion may be mistaken for renal malignancy. Here is an unusual presentation of this rare disease.

CASE REPORT

A 63 year old male presented with left flank pain, fever and dysuria. On examination, the patient was febrile with a tender mass palpable in the left lumbar region. Urinalysis showed hematuria and leucocyturia. Urine culture demonstrated growth of Klebsiella pneumoniae and Escherichia coli. Urine cytology was negative for malignant cells.

The patient was treated with antibiotics for two weeks. Repeat CT scan after one year showed marked dilatation of left upper pole collecting system and moderate dilatation of the left lower pole collecting system with a thin rim of cortical tissue. Nephrectomy was deferred as patient was also diagnosed with pulmonary embolism and was on anticoagulation therapy.

DISCUSSION

Xanthogranulomatous pyelonephritis is a rare debilitating chronic inflammatory disorder of kidney characterized by an infectious phlegmon arising in renal parenchyma. It occurs more frequently in females. Patients usually have history of recurrent urinary tract infections. Clinical presentation is nonspecific with fever and dysuria being the most frequent complaints. Positive urine cultures have been reported in 50-75% of cases. Affected patients usually have massive destruction of the kidneys requiring nephrectomy.

CONCLUSION

This patient had an obstructive renal calculus related urinary tract infection with XGP with no prior history of recurrent urinary tract infections. XGP should be considered in the differential diagnosis of middle aged adults presenting with flank mass and fever.

REFERENCES

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