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Giant Adrenal Myelolipoma — A Case Report

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ABSTRACT

Adrenal myelolipomas are rare, benign, hormonally inactive neoplasms, composed of mature adipose and hematopoietic tissues. They are often diagnosed incidentally on computed tomography (CT) performed for other causes.

They are generally small tumors with a characteristic CT appearance predominantly of fat attenuation. Giant adrenal myelolipomas are extremely rare. Wilhelms et al.[5] reported the largest adrenal myelolipoma measuring 34 cm in the greatest dimension and weighing 5500 g. Here we report a case of giant adrenal myelolipoma measuring 11.0 × 9.5 × 10.0 cm in size that was pathologically confirmed. (N. Taipei J. Med. 2000; 3:215-218)

INTRODUCTION

Adrenal myelolipoma was first described in 1905 by Gierke[1,2] and was named as myelolipoma in 1929 by Oberling.[1,2] They are often small tumors with an autopsy rate of 0.08% to 0.2%.[3,4] The reported cases of adrenal myelolipomas have ranged from 3 to 25 cm in greatest dimension.[5] And they are often small tumors; giant adrenal myelolipomas are extremely rare. Wilhelms et al.[5] reported the largest adrenal myelolipoma measuring 34 cm in greatest dimension and weighing 5500 g. Here we report a case of giant adrenal myelolipoma measuring 11.0 × 9.5 × 10.0 cm in size that is pathologically confirmed.

CASE REPORT

A 62-year-old male was admitted for workup of a right abdominal mass that was incidentally discovered by sonography (Fig. 1) during a health examination. There were no other significant physical findings, and his blood pressure was normal.

Computed tomography (CT) demonstrated a large, fatty mass arising from the right retroperitoneum and invaginating into the right hepatic lobe (Fig. 2). After intravenous contrast, the solid components of the tumor demonstrated enhancement. Differential diagnoses included adrenal myelolipoma, renal angiomyolipoma, and retroperitoneal liposarcoma. Angio-

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