

The diagnosis and follow-up of breast cancer in advanced pregnancy

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Background: Breast cancer is the most common form of cancer worldwide, with a high mortality rate. Romania ranks first in Europe in the incidence and mortality of breast cancer.

Content: The presentation highlights the principles of management of breast cancer in advanced pregnancy. The case of a 39-year-old woman, 32 weeks pregnant, taken to the emergency department for painful uterine contractions is also presented. General clinical examination revealed a palpable breast mass in the right breast with perilesional skin erythema and a bloody nipple discharge, raising the suspicion of Paget's disease of the breast. The breast ultrasound (US) described a hypoechoic mass between the inferior breast quadrants. The diagnosis of invasive ductal carcinoma was sustained by elastography and established after ultrasound-guided breast biopsy. The caesarean delivery was performed (33-34 weeks) followed by bilateral ovariectomy. Subsequently, after neoadjuvant chemotherapy, the patient underwent Madden modified radical mastectomy and continued with chemotherapy and radiotherapy. Medical imaging provided valuable information for tumor staging and re-staging, guiding the treatment strategy as well as subsequent follow-up.

Conclusions: This case underlines the limited treatment options in pregnant women with oncological pathology and highlights the fine line between maternal health and child safety for ensuring the best outcome.

Key words: advanced pregnancy, breast cancer, ultrasound-guided breast biopsy, medical imaging.

A rare case of extrahepatic cholangiocarcinoma – a multidisciplinary approach

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Background: Bile duct carcinoma is an extremely aggressive and rare primary hepatobiliary malignancy affecting nearly 1-2/100,000 people in most countries in Europe. Biliary tract malignancies located in the distal third of the common bile duct (CBD) account for approximately 17-18% of all cholangiocarcinomas. This report aims to provide a step-by-step evaluation of a rare case of cholangiocarcinoma.

Content: The current report focuses on a 65-year-old male patient who was presented to the emergency department with signs and symptoms suggestive for a biliary tract obstruction. An intense cooperation between multiple departments was required in order to perform a complete and accurate evaluation of the patient. Initially, the patient underwent an abdominal Ultrasonography (US), followed by an abdominal and pelvic Computed Tomography (CT), which revealed an intraductal tumor affecting the distal CBD. Furthermore, the patient underwent an endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP) in order to provide tissue samples and to perform a dilatation of the CBD in the affected area. The histopathology report confirmed the malignant nature of the lesion describing it as an adenocarcinoma. The surgeons performed a pancreaticoduodenectomy (Whipple procedure), managing to achieve negative tumor resection margins. However, the patient developed several complications that required multiple surgical reinterventions.

Conclusions: This report presents a fully investigated less common type of cholangiocarcinoma, highlighting the principles of diagnosis and management as well as of a multidisciplinary approach in such patients.

Key words: cholangiocarcinoma, adenocarcinoma, pancreaticoduodenectomy.

Radioimaging aspects in knee degenerative pathology

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Background: Gonarthrosis represents one of the most frequent knee conditions, most commonly found in the 5th-6th life decades and not only, mainly in women, being the main cause of motoric disability in Europe, with a high impact on the social and economic status. The aim of the presentation is to aid the interdisciplinary team in interconnecting the imaging and clinical diagnosis of the osteo-articular system pathology.

Content: The presentation reviews the radioimaging aspects of knee degenerative pathology. The imaging findings of a 35-year-old patient, known with right femur-coxal congenital subluxation, secondary left gonarthrosis and motoric disability are also presented as an illustration. The imaging technique included the pangonogram (hip-knee-ankle), which is an x-ray of the entire lower limb in orthostatism.