

Medialisation of internal carotid artery in the neck-a case report of radiology

Abstract

ICA course aberration though rarely seen but is important as it poses threat to minor as well major surgical intervention with risk of potential fatal haemorrhage in case of accidental injury. We present a case of 23 year old female patient who is known case of Non-Hodgkins lymphoma an also present with pulsating mass on left side of neck.^{1,2}

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Introduction

Aberrant course of ICA is important manifestation and it impose great threat to surgical intervention beside presenting as sub-mucosal mass and confusing physical examination of patient. Medial course, ectasia and tortuosity are frequent findings encountered in aberrancy of ICA. Though patient is asymptomatic mostly, but may present as pulsating mass, sensation of foreign body in the throat and hoarseness.^{3,4}

Case report

A 23 year old patient who is known case of Non-Hodgkins lymphoma on chemotherapy presenting with swelling on both sides of neck and there was a pulsating mass seen on left side in. The CECT scan of the patient was done and it showed (Figure 1 A&B) posterior pharyngial wall bulging a on right side (white arrow) with aberrant course of right ICA which shows medialisation. Note was also made of enlarged lymph nodes at station IIa and IIb on left side cervical regions. Diagnosis of medialisation of ICA on right side was made besides patient a known case of Non-Hodgkins lymphoma (Figure 1).

Discussion

Aberrant course of ICA is important manifestation and it impose great threat to surgical intervention beside presenting as sub-mucosal mass and confusing physical examination. Medial course, ectasia and tortuosity are frequent findings encountered in aberrancy of ICA. Though patient is asymptomatic mostly, but may present as pulsating mass, sensation of foreign body in the throat and hoarseness.^{5,6}

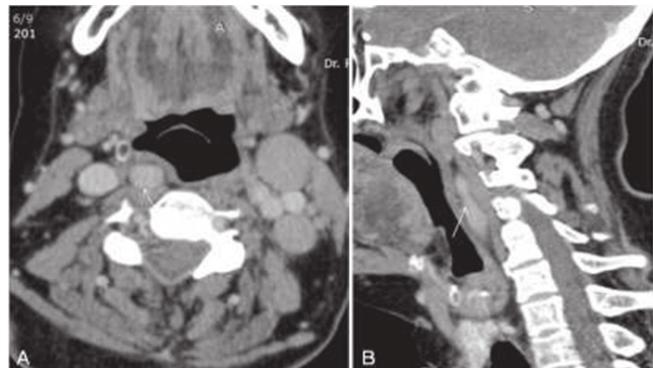


Figure 1 Known case of Hodgkin lymphoma a 23 year old female patient shows incidental finding of bulge in the posterior oropharyngial wall clinically and CECT (Figure A &B) shows posterior pharyngial wall bulging a on right side (white arrow) with aberrant course of right ICA which shows medialisation. note is made of enlarged lymph nodes at station IIa and IIb on left side cervical regions.

Key radiological diagnostic features are:

- Traject course of ICA
- Bulge caused in the posterior Pharyngial wall
- Retropharyngeal location of ICA

Other Spectrum of Aberrancy is: Medialisation, Tortuosity, Ectasia and Elongation.

Acknowledgments

None.

Conflicts of interest

Authors declare that there are no conflicts of interest.

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