

Sarcoid granuloma: An Ultra Sound visible Lesion!

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Sarcoidosis is a multisystemic inflammatory disease of unknown etiology that manifests as noncaseating granulomas, predominantly in the lungs and intrathoracic lymph nodes. The age-adjusted incidence is 11 cases per 100,000 population in whites but 34 cases per 100,000 population in African Americans. In Greece the incidence of the disease is estimated as 1,07 cases /100,000 population.

A 73 – years old female patient with a history of 25 years of sarcoidosis (stage II of the disease, under chronic corticosteroid remission) was admitted to our outpatient clinic. After all the laboratory and serologic tests, we performed imaging testing (during the last four years the patient did not refer to a chest physician for the follow up).

HRCT was performed showing the typical findings of the disease (symmetric hilar lymphadenopathy, bronchovascular bundles including centrilobular nodules, perilymphatic irregular nodular thickening, features of small airways disease and few subpleural nodules, especially in the RLL).

Therefore we performed an Ultra Sound scan of the chest wall at the area of the RLL. An hypoechoic, subpleural sarcoid lesion was detected, measuring of 1,5 – 2,2 mm of dimension, which is located in the lateral basal segment of the RLL (corresponding to the CT image)!

The use of Ultra Sound is, to our knowledge, a very new diagnostic procedure for the detection of subpleural sarcoid lesions and can be a useful implement in the following up of the disease (or in recognizing areas for transthoracic biopsies).



FIGURE 1.

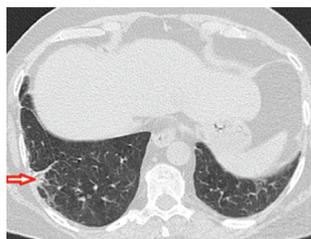


FIGURE 2.



FIGURE 3.



FIGURE 4.

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