

Multiple ring-like calcifications of the kidney

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Complete List of Authors:	Chen, Yi-Jen; Chia-Yi Christian Hospital, Department of Internal Medicine Lin, Ming-Shian; Chia-Yi Christian Hospital, Department of Internal Medicine Chen, Chi-Yi; Chia-Yi Christian Hospital, Department of Internal Medicine Shen, Cheng-Huang; Chia-Yi Christian Hospital, Department of Urology Chen, Wei; Chia-Yi Christian Hospital, Department of Internal Medicine
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Multiple ring-like calcifications of the kidney

Yi-Jen Chen¹, MD; Ming-Shian Lin¹, MD; Chi-Yi Chen², MD; Cheng-Huang Shen³, MD; and Wei Chen^{1,4}, MD

¹Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine, and ²Division of Gastroenterology, Department of Internal Medicine; ³Department of Urology; Chia-Yi Christian Hospital, Chiayi, Taiwan; ⁴Department of Respiratory Therapy, China Medical University, Taichung, Taiwan

Correspondence to

Wei Chen, MD

Assistant Professor

Department of Respiratory Therapy

China Medical University, Taichung, Taiwan

Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine

Chia-Yi Christian Hospital, Chiayi, Taiwan

Address: 539 Jhongsiao Rd. Chiayi E-mail: peteralfa2004@yahoo.com.tw

Tel: 886-5-2765041 Fax: 886-5-2774511

Running title: ring-like calcification

In June, 2010, a 76-year-old man was admitted to our Department of Urology for investigation of right renal mass. He was diagnosed to have liver cirrhosis, hepatitis C related for two years and was regularly followed up at our Outpatient Department of Gastroenterology. He had a 2-month history of right-sided upper abdominal pain and intermittent fever. Abdominal ultrasound performed by a gastroenterologist showed a large right renal mass with hydronephrosis. X-ray and abdomen computed tomography showed enlargement of right renal contour which was replaced by necrotic tumor and some calcified lymph nodes in the renal hilum region (Figure 1). Under the impression of renal cell carcinoma or transitional cell carcinoma, he underwent right radical nephrectomy, adrenalectomy and lymph nodes dissection. Grossly, the affected kidney demonstrated caseous necrosis and calcification in cortex and medullary regions with enlarged size (Figure 2). The pathological finding showed a picture of chronic granulomatous inflammation, composed of granuloma, caseous necrosis and Langhan's giant cells. In addition, acid fast bacilli were found under acid fast stain. Under the diagnosis of tuberculous pyelonephritis, he was treated with anti-tuberculosis agents.

Urogenital tuberculosis is a worldwide disease which accounts for approximately 30% to 40% of extrapulmonary tuberculosis. Because of its insidious evolution and late-onset symptoms, diagnosis and treatment are delayed; with a consequent high rate

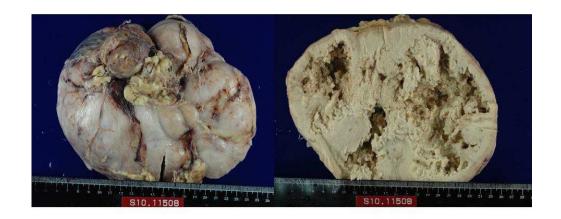
of urogenital organ destruction and renal failure. The most common presentations of urogenital tuberculosis include renal parenchymal mass, autonephrectomy, hydronephrosis, ureteral stricture and dilatation, and bladder involvement and fibrosis. Notably, renal calcified tuberculoma is not an unusual feature of urogenital tuberculosis and is often misdiagnosed as renal stones. In this study, the kidney showed "ring-like" calcification in the hilum region, and it is quite rare in urogenital tuberculosis. The differential diagnosis of this image should include renal cell carcinoma, transitional cell carcinoma, and xanthogranulomatous pyelonephritis. However, these diseases usually present as single "ring-like" calcification in the kidney, whereas it presents as multiple "ring-like" calcification in this case.

References

- 1. Figueiredo AA, Lucon AM, Junior RF *et al*. Epidemiology of urogenital tuberculosis worldwide. *Int J Urol* 2008:**15**:827-832
- Figure 1. Abdomen computed tomography showing enlargement of right necrotic tumor with some calcified lymph nodes in the renal hilum region (arrow).
- Figure 2. Radical nephrectomy showing caseous necrosis and calcification in cortex and medullary regions.



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