Pancaost syndrome related to hydatid cyst: Pancoast hydatid cyst

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Abstract

Pancoast syndrome remains a rare presentation of pulmonary diseases. Even in endemic area of echinococcosis, lung's hydatid cyst is seldomly revealed by this syndrome. We report a case of a 38 year old male patient who presented to our department with neck and left superior limb pain associated with palmar muscle atrophy and Horner's syndrome. Radiological investigations suggested the diagnosis of hydatid cyst of the left lung apex which was confirmed by surgical excision and pathological examination of the lesion. This case highlights an uncommon etiology of Pancoast syndrome which might mislead physicians in their practice.

Introduction

Pancoast was the first author to describe in 1924 a syndrome related to tumors that involve the lung apex [1]. This syndrome is commonly reported in neoplasm diseases and accounts for only 3% to 5% of all lung cancer presentations [1]. Although pulmonary hydatid cyst is still widespread throughout the world and remains an important public health issue in some regions (such as Middle Eastern, Turkey, South America and around Mediterranean borders) [2], it is very scarcely involved in the etiologies of this so called Pancoast syndrome. We report this uncommon case of Pancoast syndrome related to lung apex hydatid cyst occurring in a 38 year- old man who successfully underwent surgery in our department.

Patient and observation

This 38 year old immunocompetent man coming from a rural area was followed in our department for vertebral

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