Disseminated Cysticercosis in an Immunocompetent Host - An Uncommon Presentation

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Case Report

A 40 years old mason admitted through medical emergency for focal seizure with secondary generalization. Additionally he had multiple nodular swelling which has been appearing all over the body for last three years. On examination there were multiple non-tender, firm nodular swellings of varying sizes (0.5-1.5 cm) over face, scalp, neck (Figure 1), forearm, left buccal mucosa and tongue. Fundoscopy was normal in both eyes.

His complete hemogram, FBG, LFT and immunoglobulin levels were normal. He was non-reactive for HIV-1 and 2. Plain CT scan of brain showed starry-sky appearance of multiple calcified granuloma throughout brain parenchyma (Figure 2). MRI of brain and orbit (Figure 3) showed innumerable live cysts of neurocysticercosis in bilateral cerebral and cerebeller hemisphere as well as extracalvarial soft tissue swelling producing no appreciable contrast enhancement, perifocal edema or mass effect. Similar small cystic lesions were present in inferior rectus muscle bilaterally, infero-medial aspect of right orbit, supero-lateral aspect of both orbits, supero-medial aspect of left orbit as well as lateral aspect of right orbit near its apex. Optic nerve and eye ball appeared normal. Excision biopsy of subcutaneous nodule showed cysticerci (Figure 4). He was managed conservatively with antiepileptic, one course of albendazole and short course of corticosteroid. During follow up after 1 month he recovered miraculously with disappearance of most of the subcutaneous swellings. We planned for repeat MRI brain but he could not afford. So he was advised to continue the antiepileptic.

So an immune-competent person also may suffer from disseminated cysticercosis. Cysticercosis may be thought of as a differential in a case...
of multiple asymptomatic subcutaneous nodules to avoid catastrophe in future.

**Abbreviations**

CT- computed tomography, ELISA- enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay, FBG- fasting blood glucose, LFT- liver function test, MRI- magnetic resonance imaging, T. solium- Tinea Solium

**Reference**