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Isolated Brain Involvement of Multiple Hydatid Cyst

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INTRODUCTION

Cerebral hydatid disease is rare accounting for only 1-2% of intracranial space occupying lesion and usually manifests as solitary cystic non enhancing lesions in the MCA territory distribution.

It is even rarer to find multiple intracranial hydatid cysts.

We hereby report an interesting and unusual presentation of a patient with multiple intracranial hydatid cysts, few showing inflammatory edema and minimal rim enhancement, a rare manifestation.

CASE REPORT

A 19 years male patient from Afghanistan was admitted with altered sensorium, one episode of convulsion and generalised weakness for 20 days.

Patient had history of convulsions in the past also. On examination: Chest, CVS, Per Abdomen were normal, pupils bilateral dilated and reactive to light. Vital parameters: (Temperature, Pulse, Blood Pressure)- Normal.

Investigations: CBC, LFT and KFT were normal, amoebic serology negative.

Patient was initially treated with anti epileptics, mannitol and other supportive therapy. CXR and USG abdomen were normal. MRI brain scan showed multiple variable size non enhancing clear cystic lesion in bilateral cerebral hemispheres showing CSF signal intensity in all sequences with mass effect, midline shift and cerebral herniation, suggestive of intra cerebral hydatid cysts.

Patient underwent craniotomy and intact excision of multiple hydatid cysts done.

Antihelminth medication given and patient improved

DISCUSSION

Echinococcosis is a zoonotic parasitic disease caused by cystic echinococcosis (granulosus) or alveolar echinococcosis (multilocularis).

The disease is most commonly found in people involved in raising sheep, which acts as an intermediate host of the parasite and the presence of working dogs that are allowed to eat the offal of infected sheep.

Brain involvement with multiple hydatid cysts occurs in 0.5% of all Echinococcusgranulosus infections.

The presence of a cyst-like mass in a person with a history of exposure to sheep dogs in an area where it is endemic favours a diagnosis of echinococcosis.

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Imaging techniques are used to detect. Serologic tests may be used to confirm the diagnosis.

Chemotherapy, cyst puncture, and PAIR have been used to replace surgery as effective treatments for cystic echinococcosis. However, surgery remains the most effective treatment to remove the cyst and can lead to a complete cure.

CONCLUSION

The presence of multiple brain cysts without involving other organs is rare.

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