

Posterior gastric diverticulum mimicking adrenal adenoma on imaging

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DESCRIPTION

A 63-year-old man on a permanent pacemaker for complete heart block presented with one episode of haemoptysis. Clinical examination of the thorax was unremarkable. A contrast-enhanced CT scan showed normal lungs and a well-defined lesion in the left adrenal gland, apparently separated from the posterior wall of the stomach in all the images. It measured 3 cm with a density of 6–10 Hounsfield units (HU; [figure 1](#)). Postcontrast washout was not performed as the HU density was low. In view of a normal hormonal profile, the patient was advised to review after 6 months. A repeat CT of the abdomen performed at review showed a similar-sized mass in the region of the left adrenal gland, but this time an air-fluid level was



Figure 3 Coronal section of the same follow-up CT revealing normal left adrenal gland (open arrow) and the lesion was in continuity with the stomach (asterisk).



Figure 1 Axial section of contrast-enhanced CT scan showing a well-defined low-density left supra-renal lesion (arrows).



Figure 2 Axial section of contrast-enhanced CT scan performed at 6 months follow-up showing a similar-sized left supra-renal lesion with air fluid level (arrows).

made out on axial sections ([figure 2](#)), the section of image seen corresponded to the level of the initial image. Additionally, on the coronal sections, the entire left adrenal gland could be seen separate from the lesion, which was in continuity with the stomach ([figure 3](#)) and thus diagnostic of a posterior wall gastric diverticulum. Since the patient had no symptoms related to the gastric diverticulum, no treatment was offered for it and he was advised clinical follow-up only. The prevalence of gastric diverticula is 0.1–2.6% and can be either acquired or congenital.¹ During embryonic development, diverticulae of the posterior wall of the gastric cardia can herniate through the dorsal mesentery prior to its fusion with the left posterior gastric body and thus simulate an adrenal mass.^{2,3}

Learning points

- ▶ Gastric diverticulum simulating an adrenal tumour is rare, but must be considered in an asymptomatic patient to avoid unnecessary biochemical investigation.
- ▶ Reviewing both axial and coronal sections of the abdominal CT is useful in distinguishing adrenal from non-adrenal lesions such as a gastric diverticulum.

Contributors FKJ, DN and MJP were involved in patient management. FKJ and DN wrote the manuscript. FKJ, DN, AC and MJP were involved in manuscript review and revision.

Competing interests None.

Patient consent Obtained.



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