

[PICTURES IN CLINICAL MEDICINE]

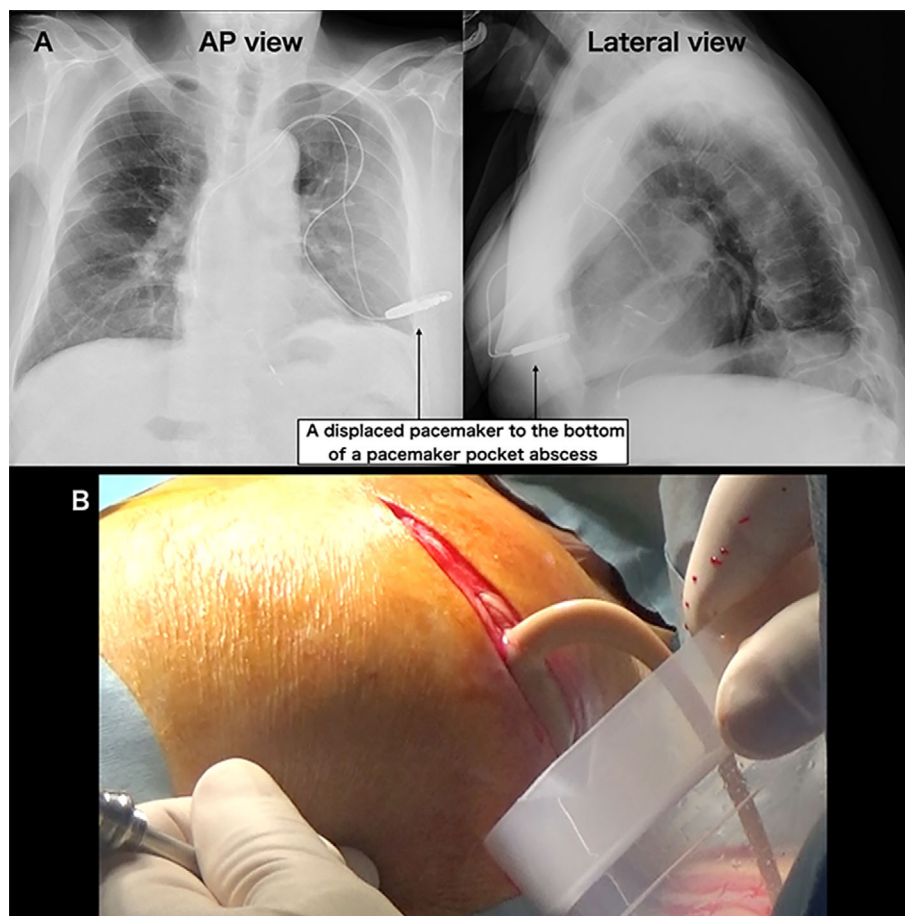
Gigantic Pacemaker Pocket Abscess Infected by *Staphylococcus epidermidis*

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Key words: pacemaker, abscess, *Staphylococcus epidermidis*

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Picture.

An 87-year-old man with a history of Hodgkin lymphoma that had been treated by chemotherapy at 60 years old and with a DDD-pacemaker implanted 13 years earlier came to our hospital. The location of his pacemaker, as shown by chest X-ray in a standing position, had markedly shifted,

showing horizontal displacement (Picture A). Blood cultures were positive for Methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus epidermidis*. During transvenous lead extraction, a large quantity of reddish, milky-white pus was discharged from the pocket incision (Picture B). Two leads were successfully ex-

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tracted by a laser-assisted sheath (GlideLight; Philips, Amsterdam, the Netherlands). A leadless cardiac pacemaker (Micra; Medtronic, Minneapolis, USA) was implanted 14 days after the extraction, and the patient was discharged 3 days later without any complications over a subsequent follow-up of 12 months. Although a pacemaker pocket abscess is a well-known presentation among pacemaker-related infections, such a gigantic abscess, probably caused by the involvement of less tissue-destructive bacteria and the patient's compromised immune system, is quite rare (1, 2).

The authors state that they have no Conflict of Interest (COI).

Takahiro Okano and Ayako Okada contributed equally to this work.

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