

[ PICTURES IN CLINICAL MEDICINE ]

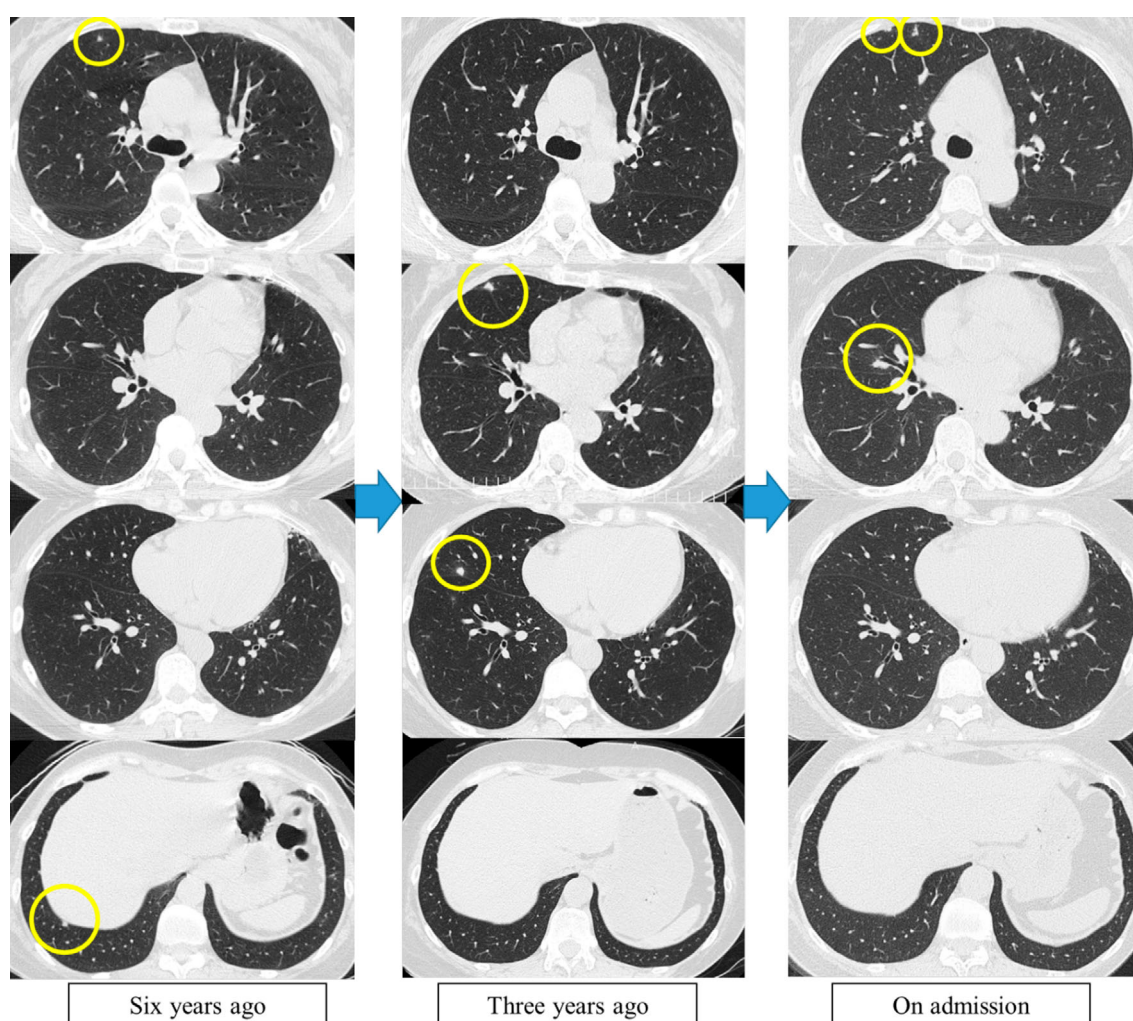
## Langerhans Cell Histiocytosis Appearing as Wandering Pulmonary Nodules

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**Key words:** Pulmonary Langerhans cell histiocytosis, nodular form, lung metastasis

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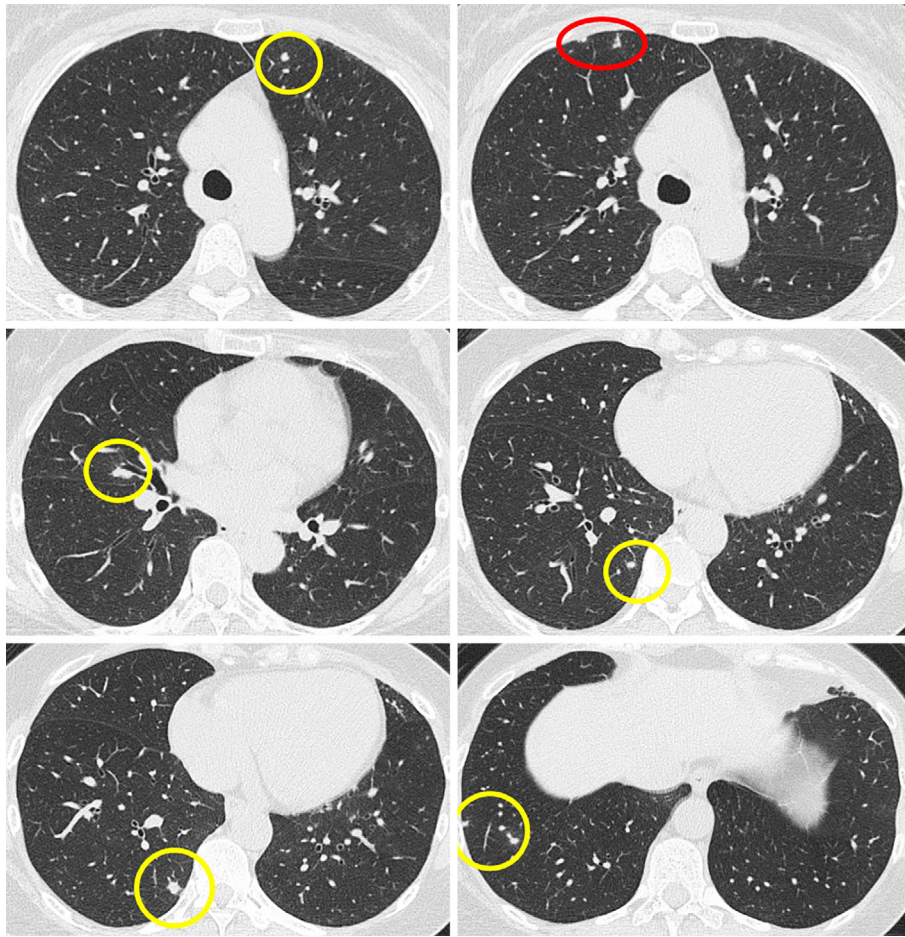


**Picture 1.**

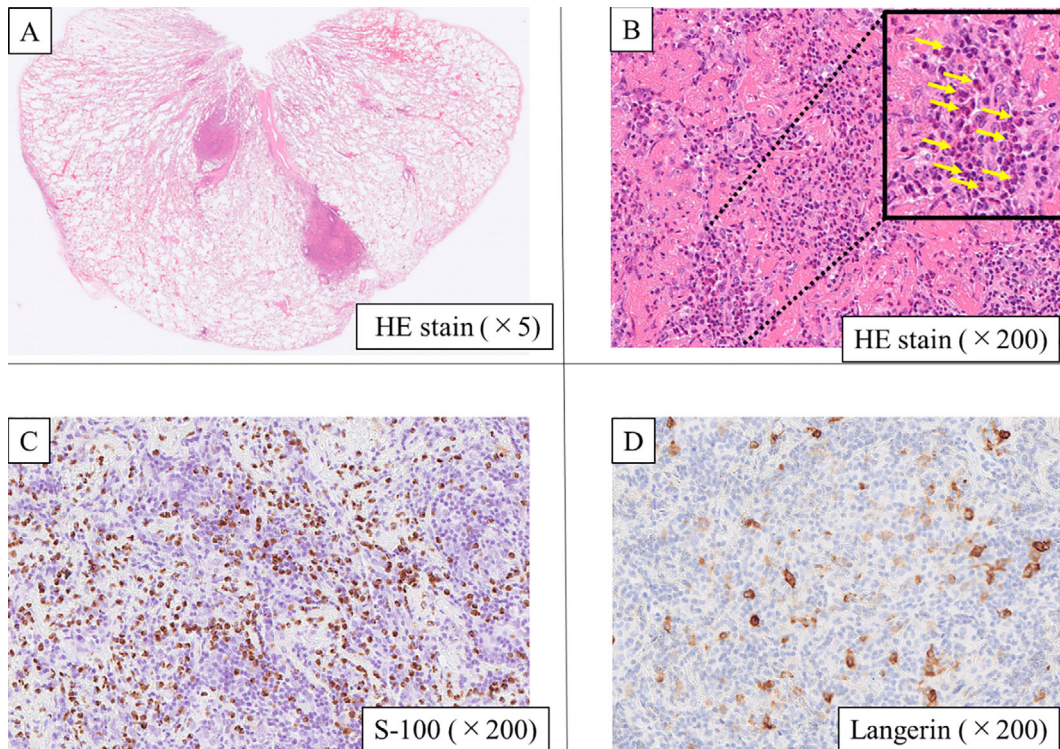
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Picture 2.



Picture 3.

A 52-year-old non-smoking Japanese woman with a history of breast cancer 6 years earlier had multiple small nodules in both lungs on chest high-resolution computed tomography (HRCT; 1-mm section). These were suspected to be metastatic lung cancer five years prior to this presentation. The small nodules had shown a wandering appearance over the years (Picture 1), and she was admitted to our hospital for a further examination. HRCT revealed multiple, small (2-5 mm), non-cystic bilateral pulmonary nodules (Picture 2). Histology of the surgically resected lung (rt. S<sup>3</sup>, red circle in Picture 2) revealed 2- to 3-mm nodules containing granulation tissue with eosinophils (Picture 3A, B; eosinophils are highlighted by arrows), with cells that were positive for S-100 (Picture 3C) and Langerin (CD207) (Picture 3D). These findings were diagnostic of pulmonary Langerhans cell histiocytosis (PLCH). PLCH is typically diagnosed by its characteristic CT findings, such as thin-

walled pulmonary cysts; however non-cystic nodules have rarely but occasionally been reported in patients with PLCH (1). Thus, multiple spontaneously pulmonary wandering nodules may also be PLCH.

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

### Reference

1. Hidalgo A, Franquet T, Giménez A, Bordes R, Pineda R, Madrid M. Smoking-related interstitial lung diseases: radiologic-pathologic correlation. *Eur Radiol* **16**: 2463-2470, 2006.

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