Rare Presentation of En Cuirasse Detected on 18-F FDG PET/CT in a Case of Recurrent Breast Carcinoma

Abstract

Carcinoma en cuirasse is a type of cutaneous metastasis from different malignancies. En cuirasse although is a rare entity, most commonly occurs in cases of recurrent breast carcinoma after surgery or very rarely months or years after diagnosis of primary tumor. We report a rare case of neck carcinoma en cuirasse in a 47-year-old Indian female who is a known case of recurrent carcinoma left breast postmodified radical mastectomy, chemotherapy, and radiotherapy referred for fluorodeoxyglucose positron emission tomography—computed tomography following another six cycles of chemotherapy for response assessment.

Keywords: Carcinoma breast, en curiasse, fluorodeoxyglucose positron emission tomography—computed tomography

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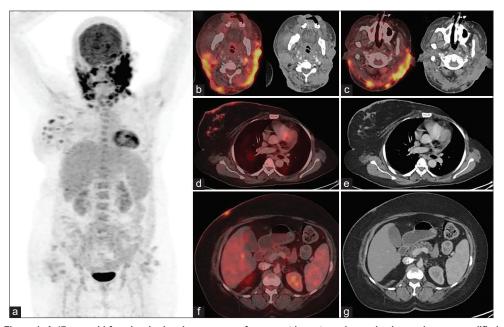


Figure 1: A 47-year-old female who is a known case of recurrent breast carcinoma having undergone modified radical mastectomy, chemotherapy, and radiotherapy was referred for 18-F fluorodeoxyglucose positron emission tomography–computed tomography (18F-FDG PET/CT) scan for response assessment following six more cycles of chemotherapy. (a) The maximum intensity projection of the patient showing intense FDG uptake involving bilateral cervical lymph nodes, chest wall, and abdominal soft-tissue deposits (b and c) Transverse images of the PET/CT fusion and the attenuation CT images demonstrated multiple bilateral cervical node metastases with cutaneous tissue involvement extending from left retroauricular region with increased FDG uptake, (d and e) shows left postmodified radical mastectomy status in a case of recurrent breast carcinoma with FDG avid soft-tissue thickening of the right breast (f and g) shows soft-tissue deposit in the right anterior abdominal wall. The incidence of en cuirasse from different malignancies ranges from 0.7% to 10.0%.[1,2] Most common malignancies leading to carcinoma en cuirasse is melanoma,[3] followed by breast carcinoma.[4] Fibrotic type of metastatic spread to skin characterized by hard and leathery plaque is named "encasement of armor" or carcinoma en cuirasse.[5] Although en cuirasses from breast carcinoma are most commonly reported involving the chest wall,[6] there are rare cases of distant en cuirasse to abdominal skin too.[7] To the best of our knowledge, there are no reports of en cuirasse involving the neck, breast, and abdominal wall from carcinoma breast

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Declaration of patient consent

The authors certify that they have obtained all appropriate patient consent forms. In the form, the patient has given her consent for her images and other clinical information to be reported in the journal. The patient understands that her name and initials will not be published and due efforts will be made to conceal her identity, but anonymity cannot be guaranteed.

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Conflicts of interest

There are no conflicts of interest.

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