Images in cardio-thoracic surgery

Atypical presentation of mature teratoma mimicking hydatidosis

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Received 1 March 2005; received in revised form 28 March 2005; accepted 30 March 2005; Available online 4 June 2005

Keywords: Thoracic echinococcosis; Teratoma

Suspicion of a thoracic echinococcosis by radiologic findings (Figs. 1 and 2) in a 38-year-old asymptomatic Swiss woman with periodical stays in India. An antihelminthic 2-week therapy was followed by surgical resection, strictly avoiding dissemination. Surprisingly, the cyst contained hair and seborrhoeic liquid. Histological confirmation of a mature teratoma.

Fig. 1. Chest X-ray shows an apparent elevation of left hemidiaphragm.

Fig. 2. CT scan reveals a large liquid mass in the left lower hemithorax with the aspect of a hydatid cyst containing daughter cysts.