Asymptomatic muscle metastasis from pulmonary adenocarcinoma

A 62-year-old never-smoker woman was admitted with a 2-month history of progressive dyspnoea. Her CT scan showed a 3×4 cm lung mass in the right upper lobe. Tumour biopsy revealed an adenocarcinoma. Integrated [18F] fluorodeoxyglucose positron emission tomography (FDG-PET)/CT scan for staging demonstrated hypermetabolic FDG uptake in the lung mass (figure 1A) and an unexpectedly focal FDG uptake in the left paraspinal muscle (figure 1B). Physical examination was normal. Biopsy from the muscle showed infiltration with cells of adenocarcinoma. A revision of the initial CT scan revealed a mass in the left paraspinal muscle which had not been reported (figure 2, arrow).

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