Calcified pulmonary chondromas in Carney’s triad

Helmy Haja Mydin, Keith M Kerr, Owen Dempsey

A 20-year-old woman presented with haematemesis. Endoscopy identified gastric ulceration. Chest imaging (figures 1 and 2) and subsequent surgical biopsy confirmed pulmonary chondromas (figures 3 and 4). These benign cartilaginous tumours, typically found in young women, can form part of ‘Carney’s triad’ with gastrointestinal stromal tumours (GISTs) and paraganglioma. Twenty-one years later, she developed further gastric ulceration,
histology confirming a GIST (figures 5 and 6). She has now had 2 years of imatinib therapy and remains well. As yet, she has not developed paraganglioma or other organ involvement, but incomplete expression of Carney’s triad is reported. Clinicians should be mindful that, albeit rarely, more serious extrapulmonary pathology can be associated with benign pulmonary chondromas.

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