Images in Thorax

Calcified pulmonary chondromas in Carney’s triad

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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.1 Twenty-one years later, she developed further gastric ulceration,
Chest clinic 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.

Contributors HHM and OD conceived the idea, wrote the manuscript and are guarantors of overall content. KMK provided histopathology slides and descriptions. All authors approved the final manuscript.

Competing interests None.

Patient consent Obtained.

Provenance and peer review Not commissioned; externally peer reviewed.

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