



8/5/26 Morning Report with @CPSolvers

"One life, so many dreams" Case Presenter: Renzo (@) Case Discussants: Steph, Zaven & Alec
<https://clinicalproblemsolving.com/present-a-case/>



Scribing (Zachary):

CC: 34 y/o M presents with abdominal pain and subjective fevers for 2 weeks

HPI:

pt developed epigastric pain associated with nausea, decreased appetite, and a fever of 39 C (102.2 F) 2 weeks prior to presentation.

1 week prior to presentation, pt developed right sided pleuritic chest pain and worsening of existing symptoms

ROS:

Decreased appetite
Increased Sweating
Unquantified weight loss
Denied upper respiratory symptoms

PMH:
None

Meds:
None

Fam Hx: None

Social Hx:

- From Tumbes, Peru
- alcohol use socially, denies drug and tobacco use
- works as street vendor

Sexual History:

Married, multiple extramarital relationships, inconsistent usage of barrier contraception
Allergies: None

Vitals: T: 38 C (100.4 F) HR: 108 BP: 144/94 RR: 17 Sat: nl BMI: unknown
Exam: Gen: Well-appearing; no evidence of chronic illness.
HEENT: Unremarkable.
CV: Tachycardic, regular rhythm; no murmurs.
Pulm: Clear to auscultation bilaterally; no respiratory distress.
Abd: Epigastric tenderness. Tender hepatomegaly, with the liver edge palpable approximately 3 cm below the right costal margin.
Neuro: No focal neurologic deficits.
Extremities/skin: Mild pallor; no other significant findings.

Notable Labs & Imaging:

Hematology:

WBC: 27,600/ μ L (85% neutrophils) Hgb: 13.3g/dL Plt: 415,000/ μ L

Chemistry:

Na: 134 mmol/L Cr: 0.73mg/dL T. Billi: 2.9 mg/dL D. Billi: 1.8 mg/dL

AST + ALT: Obtained, unknown values

ALP: 307 U/L Alb: 2.8g/dL CRP: 190 mg/L LDH: 422 U/L INR: 1.26

HIV: Negative HTLV-1: Negative Hepatitis B Serology: c/w immunity

Blood Cultures Ordered

Imaging:

Ultrasound: hepatomegaly with heterogeneous hepatic parenchyma and a large, rounded, heterogeneous lesion measuring approximately 13 x 4 cm, with an estimated volume of 500 ml

CT Abdomen: Contrast-enhanced abdominal CT demonstrated a large heterogeneous lesion involving hepatic segments VI through VIII

CXR: performed

Diagnosis:

Serum Ab against *E. histolytica* markedly elevated $\Rightarrow$ highly suggestive of active infection.

Antigen testing of the drainage fluid pos for *E. histolytica* Gal/GaINAc lectin.

Stool examination also demonstrated *E. histolytica* cysts.



Problem Representation: A 34 y/o previously healthy M presents with subacute fever, constitutional symptoms, upper abdominal pain and pleuritic chest pain. His evaluation is notable for tender hepatomegaly, significant neutrophilic leukocytosis, elevated CRP and ALP and a solitary large hepatic lesion on CT and Ultrasound

Teaching Points (Lera)

- $\rightarrow$ Fevers not responding to Abx: prioritize atypical infections > immunologic ds, neoplastic causes.
- $\rightarrow$ (upper) abd. pain + pleuritic CP: unifying pathology (consider proximity of structures) VS different causes (consider ptn vulnerability).
- $\rightarrow$ Image negative R shoulder pain $\rightarrow$ early on consider referred pain from RUQ abdominal pathology
- $\rightarrow$ Liver injury pattern: hepatocellular [AST, ALT] // cholestatic [ALP + bili] // infiltrative [ALP > else]
- $\rightarrow$ Hepatomegaly $\rightarrow$ imaging is key [focal // diffuse]
- $\rightarrow$ Focal lesion $\rightarrow$ tissue is the issue $\rightarrow$ drainage for both Rx & Dx
- $\rightarrow$ Inflammatory focal liver lesion:
 - ID (pyogenic [= liver abscess $\rightarrow$ bacterial // amoebic] > parasites [Echinococcus: mass effect > inflammation], fungal >>> viral)
 - + non-ID [malignancy with 2ry changes, eg necrosis / bleeding].
- $\rightarrow$ Liver abscess – where did it come from? Tubes going in [portal vein (polymicrobial), artery $\rightarrow$ hematogenous (monomicrobial)] and out [bile ducts] of the liver.