

Massive Vena Cava Thrombus Associated With a Renal Tumor

Trombo Maciço da Veia Cava Associado a Tumor Renal



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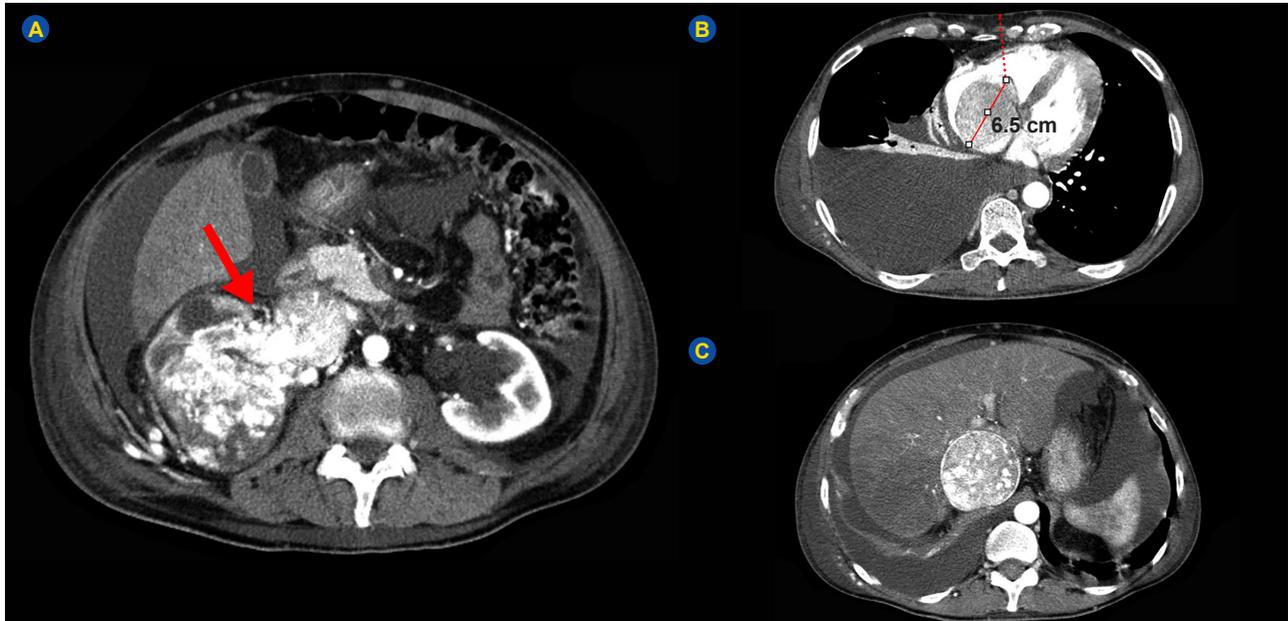


Figure 1 - Renal CT revealing a renal tumor with vascular invasion (A); Thrombus in right atrium totalling 6.5 cm in diameter (B); Retrohepatic portion of inferior venous tumor thrombus (C).

A 54-year-old male was referred to our institution harboring a renal tumor with an associated vena cava thrombus, complaining only of gross hematuria. Physical examination was unremarkable for findings. Ultrasonography showed a right renal mass with 7.5 cm of diameter, occupying most of the kidney.

Thoraco, abdominal and pelvic computed tomography (CT) detailed the mass to be, in fact, of 9 x 6.5 cm, with a rare finding: a very large vena cava luminal thrombus (Fig. 1A): a stage IV on the Mayo Clinical Classification, up to the right atrium (Fig. 1B) and down to the femoral veins.

The thrombus reached a diameter of 7 cm in its subhepatic course (Fig. 1C), 6.3 cm in right atrium and 1.7 cm in the femoral veins.

Collateral venous circulation was evident. Advanced disease precluded any surgical intervention, and patient's demise happened three months after first symptoms appeared.

Inferior vena cava thrombosis has been reported in 4-15% of cases of renal tumors, with extension to the right atrium in 1%.^{1,2} Long-term cancer-free survival up to 25-65% following nephrectomy with tumor thrombectomy.³⁻⁵

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