Ectopic Hepatocellular Carcinoma of the Left Sub-diaphragm with Metastasis

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Chest x-ray of a 64-year-old man showed abnormal shadows on both lungs and left diaphragm elevation. The patient had elevated serum levels of AFP (84,865 ng/mL) and PIVKA-II (1,384 mAU/mL). Computed tomography revealed multiple lung nodules and a mass lesion under the left diaphragm but not in the liver (Picture 1). The liver was not cirrhotic. Titer of hepatitis B surface antibody was elevated, but hepatitis B surface antigen, hepatitis B virus DNA, and hepatitis C virus were seronegative. He underwent surgical biopsies of the sub-diaphragmatic mass and a lung nodule, which were diagnosed as hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) histologically (Picture 2a, 2b, respectively). The sub-diaphragmatic lesion included non-neoplastic liver tissue.

Ectopic liver tissue is occasionally found at various anatomical sites such as the gallbladder wall, intra-abdominal ligament, omentum, retroperitoneum, and thorax (1). HCCs arise from ectopic liver tissue (2). Lung metastasis of ec-

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topic HCC has not previously been described.

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References


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