Mondor’s Disease of the Chest Wall

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**Key words:** Mondor’s disease, thrombophlebitis, excessive physical activity

Intern Med Advance Publication
(DOI: 10.2169/internalmedicine.2832-19)

A 54-year-old Japanese man presented with pain and linear induration of the right anterior chest after overextending his right arm to try to cut the upper branch of a garden tree a few days ago. He denied any other symptoms or a history of trauma. The linear induration was detected subcutaneously along with a right thoracoepigastric vein only when his right arm was raised (Picture 1). In addition, the induration was undetectable when his right arm was put down (Picture 2). This unique change is consistent with the clinical finding of Mondor’s disease (1). We therefore diagnosed him with Mondor’s disease, although we did not perform ultrasonography, which is useful for the definitive diagnosis (2). Mondor’s disease is a rare benign and self-limited disease characterized by superficial thrombophlebitis of a vein that develops after trauma, breast surgery or excessive physical activity. Raising awareness of the existence of Mondor’s disease is important for its diagnosis.

The authors state that they have no Conflict of Interest (COI).

References