



Images in medicine

Cannonball pulmonary metastasis of rectal cancer

Metástasis pulmonar en bala de cañón de cáncer de recto

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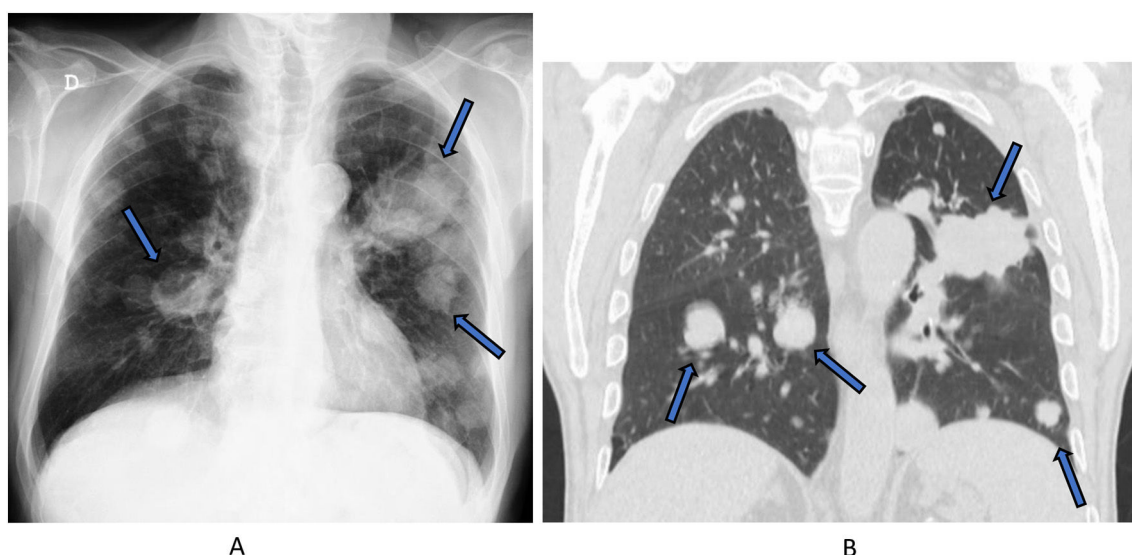


Fig. 1. Pulmonary metastasis on chest X-ray and CT-Scan.

Clinical Case: A 75 year-old male arrived at the emergency service due to episodes of fainting and falling, weight loss, asthenia and fecal incontinence in the last year. The patient had previously refused several attempts by the family to search medical care. Past history of hypertension and unknown result colonoscopy 3 years before. Chest x-ray (Fig. 1A), revealed cannonball metastatic pattern and additional studies revealed, bilateral nodular formations the largest (62 mm) from the left hilum to the visceral pleura (Fig. 1B Chest CT-Scan).

The Brain CT-scan presented brain lesions (Fig. 2 Largest with $5.8 \times 4 \times 4.4$ cm) and another cerebellar with 1.7cm, both with extensive vasogenic edema. Colonoscopy revealed stenosis and ulceration due to rectal carcinoma which was the primary tumor. Unfortunately, despite colorectal surgery the patient died after 36 days in the hospital, before chemo and radiotherapy were performed.

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Fig. 2. Frontal metastasis on brain CT-Scan.