A CASE OF ATRIAL MYXOMA PRESENTING AS PROLONGED FEVER

AND CONSTITUTIONAL SYMPTOMS

Abstract

Background; Cardiac myxoma is the most common primary cardiac tumor though

it is a rare entity in routine clinical practice. Clinical manifestations of cardiac

myxoma are diverse, but commonly it presents with obstructive, constitutional and

embolic symptoms which is collectively known as Godwin's triad. However, the

clinical presentations of cardiac myxoma can be nonspecific and uncharacteristic,

leading to delayed diagnosis and unexpected poor prognosis.

Case summary; This case illustrates a 69-year-old lady who presented with

prolonged fever with chills and rigors associated with non-specific constitutional

symptoms, who has undergone a thorough evaluation for a cause of fever. She

underwent 2D-echocardiography to exclude the possibility of infective

endocarditis, which revealed a large echogenic mass in the left atrial atrium

completely filling the atrial cavity suggestive of a left atrial myxoma.

Conclusion; It is not uncommon for a tumor to present as a prolonged fever with

constitutional symptoms. Even though rare cardiac myxoma should be considered

and early echo-cardiography is necessary to avoid delay in diagnosis which can

lead to a poor outcome.

Key words; Atrial Myxoma, Prolonged Fever, Constitutional Symptoms