

Abstract

Apathetic hyperthyroidism is a rare entity which is more prevalent among the elderly population with Graves' disease. Atypical presentation which lacks the usually expected hyper active signs and symptoms of hyperthyroidism can lead to diagnostic delays as well as misdiagnosis. The objective of this case report is to highlight the unusual presentation of apathetic thyrotoxicosis.

We herein report a rare case of apathetic thyrotoxicosis in a 69-year-old Sri Lankan male with diabetes mellitus, dyslipidaemia, hypertension and ischemic heart disease presented with a three months history of severe anorexia, weight loss, malaise and feverishness. He had direct hyperbilirubinemia, elevated gamma glutamyl transferase, hypercalcemia and normocytic normochromic anaemia with moderate thrombocytopenia. He was thoroughly evaluated for possible occult malignancy and finally diagnosed to have thyrotoxicosis. Even though the management options for apathetic hyperthyroidism is similar to typical hyperthyroidism, it is encouraged to choose definitive treatment strategies like radioactive iodine treatment for the elderly population in order to minimize complications of hyperthyroidism as well as the adverse effects of treatment.