Metastatic Prostate Cancer Showing Superscan on Radionucleotide Imaging

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Clinical Image

A 58 year old male presented with low back and right thigh pain, previously evaluated with X-ray lumbar spine and pelvis showing multiple scattered areas of bone sclerosis. Prostate biopsy done at PSA of 4771 ng/ml confirmed grade group 3 prostatic adenocarcinoma. Furthermore, his Tc-99m MDP bone scan showed diffuse increase intracer uptake involving the axial skeleton including skull, spine, bilateral ribs, pelvic bones, bilateral clavicles, bilateral scapula, sternum, proximal femurs and proximal left humerus. Renal activity was not seen Figure 1. This finding was consistent with “superscan”. Superscan is intense symmetric activity in the bones with diminished renal and soft tissue activity on radio-nucleotide imaging. It may be secondary to metastatic, metabolic, or hematologic disease causing increased osteoblastic activity Figure 2. The absent genitourinary activity (Absent kidney sign) is pathognomonic of a superscan. Patient was started on androgen deprivation therapy and abiraterone with prednisolone with excellent PSA response.

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Figure 1: Superscan labeled.

Figure 2: Superscan unlabeled.