

HEPATIC HAEMANGIOENDOTHELIOMA. A RARE CAUSE OF DECOMPENSATION OF LIVER DISEASE

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Poster

Hepatobiliary

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A 51-year-old man with weight loss and hepatomegaly died within 6 months of presentation from hepatic haemangioendothelioma, a rare malignant vascular tumour often misdiagnosed as more common liver malignancies.

KEY POINTS

- The patient initially presented with weight loss, anaemia, and hepatomegaly with mildly elevated liver enzymes (ALT 65, ALP 267, GGT 726) and normal imaging showing no malignancy.
- Four months later he developed abdominal pain, transudative ascites, and grossly deranged liver function (ALP 1446, GGT 3200, bilirubin 21, albumin 27) with new imaging findings.
- Liver biopsy showed cords of epithelioid cells with hyperchromatic nuclei and cytoplasmic vacuoles on myxohyaline stroma, consistent with hepatic haemangioendothelioma.
- The patient was deemed not suitable for transplantation, rapidly deteriorated with multi-organ failure, and died within 6 months of initial presentation.
- Hepatic haemangioendothelioma is a rare malignant tumour of vascular endothelial origin reported to be misdiagnosed in up to 80% of cases, commonly confused with angiosarcoma, cholangiocarcinoma, metastatic carcinoma, or hepatoma.

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