

## Primary breast lymphoma clinically mimicking acute mastitis: a case report

Li-Min Sun<sup>1</sup>, Eng-Yen Huang<sup>2</sup>, Fan-Yun Meng<sup>3</sup>, Nai-Jen Chang<sup>4</sup>,  
Li-Min Chung<sup>5</sup>, Ji-An Liang<sup>6,7</sup>, and Chiao-Yi Lu<sup>8</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Radiation Oncology, Zuoying Armed Forces General Hospital, Kaohsiung;

<sup>2</sup>Department of Radiation Oncology, Chang-Gung Memorial Hospital, Kaohsiung Hsien;

Departments of <sup>3</sup>General Surgery, <sup>4</sup>Pathology, and <sup>5</sup>Medical Oncology, Zuoying Armed Forces General Hospital, Kaohsiung; <sup>6</sup>Department of Radiation Therapy and Oncology, China Medical University Hospital, Taichung; <sup>7</sup>School of Medicine, China Medical University, Taichung;

<sup>8</sup>Department of Radiology, Zuoying Armed Forces General Hospital, Kaohsiung, Taiwan

---

### ABSTRACT

---

Extranodal non-Hodgkin lymphoma of the breast is a rare disease. We present a case of primary breast lymphoma with atypical clinical manifestations that looked like acute mastitis. A 46-year-old woman had noted a painful swelling in the right breast for 2 months. The mass had an inflammatory appearance and acute mastitis was the clinical impression. She underwent a core biopsy of the mass, and pathology showed inflammatory changes. The inflammatory mass regressed and recurred during hospitalization, and further incision with debridement was done. The histological findings were consistent with diffuse large B cell lymphoma. Systemic examination found stage IIE disease. She received chemotherapy and local radiation is planned.

---

**Key words:** breast lymphoma, acute mastitis, immunohistochemistry.

Correspondence to: Chiao-Yi Lu, MD, Department of Radiology, Zuoying Armed Forces General Hospital, 553 Junxiao Rd, Zuoying District, Kaohsiung City, Taiwan, ROC.  
Tel +11-886-7-5826503;  
fax +11-886-7-5884377;  
e-mail lu9381@ms38.hinet.net

Received June 11, 2010;  
accepted October 21, 2010.