

AXILLARY LYMPH NODE HEMANGIOMA: A RARE FINDING

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Introduction:

- Hemangiomas are common benign tumors of the soft tissue, skin and mucosa.
- Intranodal hemangiomas are a primary benign vascular tumor that are exceedingly rare. There have been less than 30 total case reports of this phenomenon in the past 75 years.
- Intranodal hemangiomas are commonly incidentally found on imaging and are typically solitary enlarged lymph nodes.²

Case:

50-year-old female with history of stroke and congenital skin hemangiomas had incidentally found enlarged axillary and sub-pectoral lymph nodes on CT-A of her right axilla and shoulder.

Subsequent mammography revealed no concern for breast malignancy and patient workup continued forward with concern for possible axillary lymphoma.

On exam she had palpable non-tender axillary lymph nodes that correlated with her CT findings.

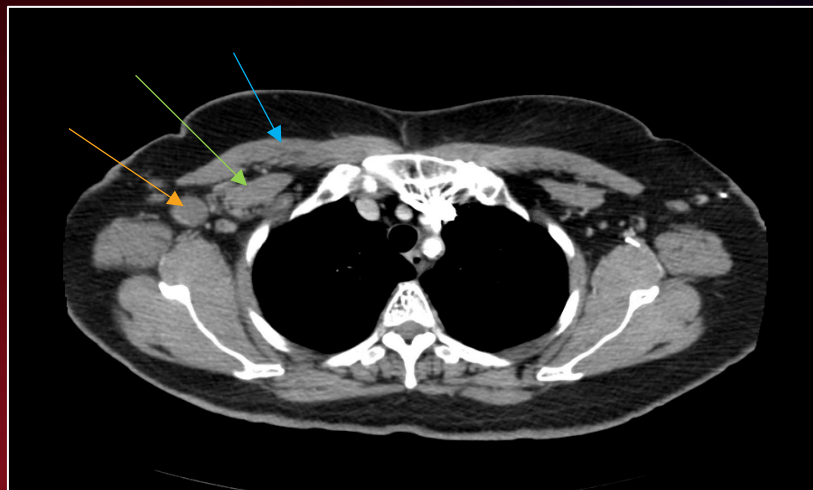


Figure 1: CT-A indicating right axillary and sub pectoral lymphadenopathy. The orange arrow indicates enlarged axillary lymph node, the green arrow indicates pectoralis minor, and the blue arrow indicates pectoralis major.

Case cont.:

Patient was taken to the operating for axillary lymph node excision. Lymph node was excised and sent to pathology for frozen per lymphoma protocol.

Analysis of the frozen specimen showed no evidence of lymphoma or malignancy. On further pathologic evaluation, benign intranodal hemangioma was the final diagnosis.

Discussion:

- Hemangioma is one of four classified benign vascular tumors. Hemangiomas occurring in lymph nodes is exceedingly rare and more commonly affects females and is found in solitary lymphadenopathy.¹
- Lymph node hemangiomas have been found in lymph nodes throughout the body including axilla, hilum, inguinal, and cervical nodes.²
- Previous case reports have shown a correlation between congenital mucosal, skin and soft tissue hemangiomas with intranodal hemangiomas. The current surgical consensus is surgical removal of lymph nodes to rule out vascular or soft tissue malignancy.³

Conclusion:

- Our case report aims to add further knowledge to the literature of this exceedingly rare condition. Our patient had multiple enlarged lymph nodes and no prior history of cancer which varies from previously known cases.
- We recommend lymph node excision for further evaluation to rule out malignancy.

References:

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3. Tessieras J, Chenaye J, Senechaud C, Banz Y. Intranodal capillary-cavernous hemangioma: Report of a very rare case. *SAGE Open Med Case Rep.* 2019 May 2;7:2050313X19846710. doi: 10.1177/2050313X19846710. PMID: 31105947; PMCID: PMC6501482.

