Diffuse Pulmonary Meningotheliomatosis: A Rare Case With Long-term Radiographic Stability

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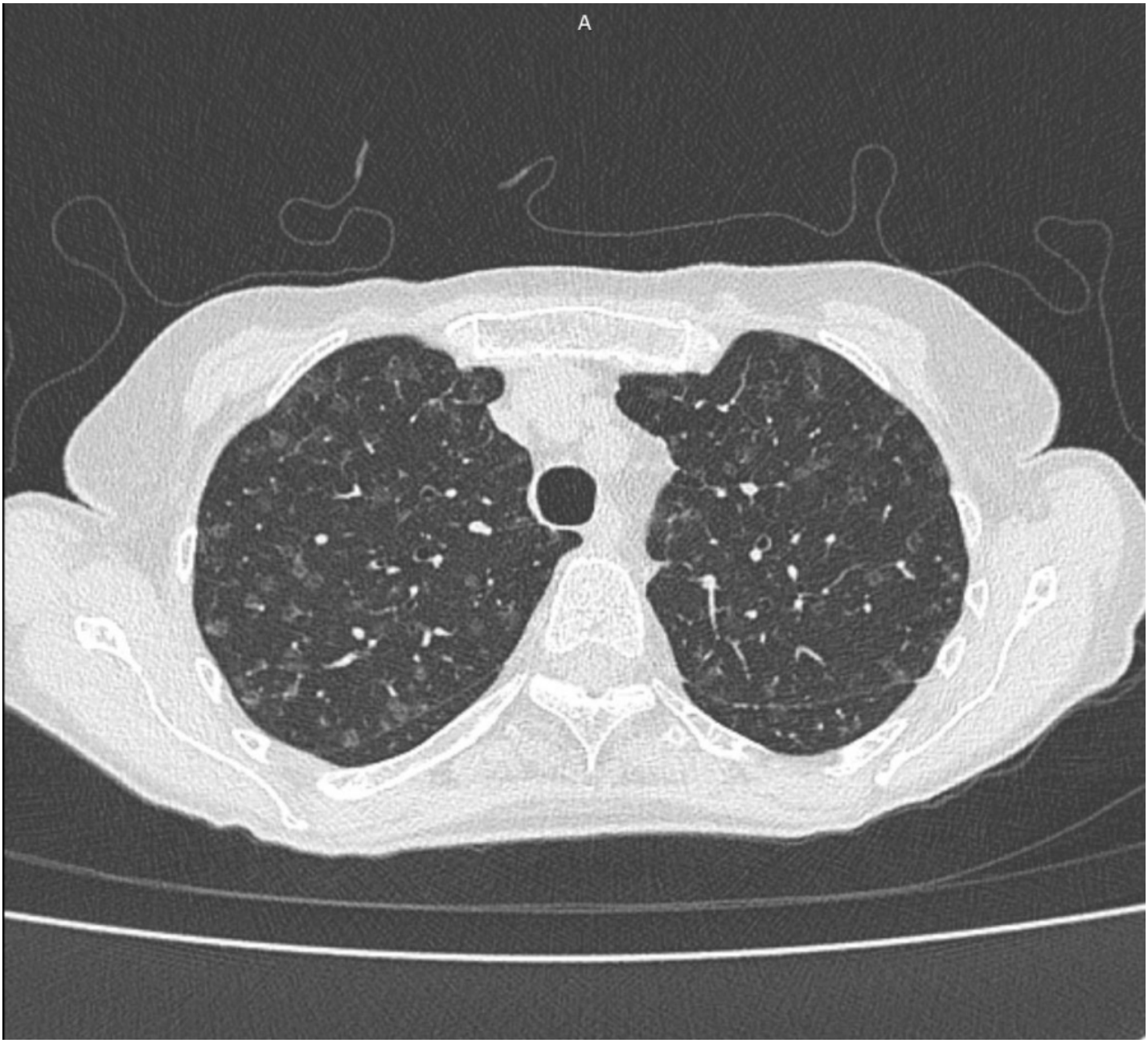
Intro: Diffuse pulmonary meningotheliomatosis (DPM) is a rare lung disease characterized by numerous, bilateral minute pulmonary meningothelial-like nodules (MPMNs). The clinical significance of DPM remains unclear, with few cases reported. Herein lies a case of DPM with pulmonary function testing (PFT) and radiographic stability over seven years. **Case Presentation:** An 89-year-old woman, a never-smoker, with a past medical history of bibasilar bronchiectasis, iron deficiency anemia, coronary artery disease, hypothyroidism, and aortic and mitral regurgitation presented with progressive dyspnea on exertion (DOE). Her bronchiectasis was initially diagnosed in 2017 and deemed congenital with mild restrictive deficit on PFT. Repeat PFTs in 2024 showed total lung capacity (TLC) at 90% predicted, forced vital capacity (FVC) at 81% predicted, and diffusion capacity of the lungs for carbon monoxide (DLCO) at 90% predicted. Notably, her chest imaging showed numerous bilateral small nodules, some with ground glass appearance and some with central lucencies. They appeared to be mostly centrilobular but abutting the fissure in some areas, so possibly best described as random pattern. These nodules were initially noted on abdominal imaging as far back as 2008 and are unchanged in appearance. After multidisciplinary discussion, it was determined that her imaging was consistent with DPM.
Discussion: DPM is an ultra-rare lung disease with limited documented cases, and its clinical course remains poorly understood. In this case, the patient's radiographic findings have remained stable over at least seven years with only minimal changes in lung function, despite progressive DOE. The patient has multiple potential contributing factors, including worsening anemia and valvular disease, making it difficult to attribute her symptoms solely to DPM. Continued monitoring is essential to understand the disease progression and implications of DPM. This case contributes valuable longitudinal data to the limited body of knowledge on DPM, highlighting the potential for prolonged stability in both imaging and pulmonary function.



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