CASE REPORT

Liver Damage After Breast Plastic Surgery – Clinical Case Report

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Summary
Since silicone implants were introduced in the early 1960s, those have been widely used for cosmetic and reconstructive breast surgery. Although a recent review has shown no relationship between the silicone breast implant and systemic complications, leakage of the silicone into the tissues and migration to the regional lymph nodes remains a clinical problem. This was the first case in our practice when possibly breast implant material was found in the liver tissue.

Key words: Liver, breast implants, complications.

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AIM OF THE DEMONSTRATION
To demonstrate relatively rare complication after breast plastic surgery.

CASE REPORT
38 years old women presents with discomfort in the upper right quadrant and epigastric region. Complaints last for approximately 5 years, periodically. The patient reports no itching, bleeding, jaundice, nausea or other dyspeptic complaint. Laboratory tests within normal ranges, except mild anemia.

16 years ago patient had plastic operation for breast enlargement. The mammary prosthesis consisted of polyurethane cover and filled with synthetic thermostable rubber of low molecular structure. There were episodes of allergic reactions with face edema, Quincke’s edema and lymphadenopathy starting about 9 years ago. Lymph node biopsy: infiltration of macrophages and atrophy of lymph node. Breast implants were removed 8 years ago. After that there was an episode of hepatosplenomegaly and enlarged lymph nodes 5 years ago.

Ultrasound examination: Right lobe of liver slightly enlarged with multiple hypoechoic focuses 3-5mm diameter, Fig.1.

It was decided to perform liver biopsy.

Liver biopsy: accumulation of unknown material (fat, air, lypophile radiopaque) in the portal tracts without significant damage of liver parenchyma. Spear-shaped holesterol or fatty acid crystals are not found, there is no damage of hepatocytes or Kupffer cells. There are no data of inflammatory or neoplastic process, fig. 2., 3.

Conclusion: It is possible that material of breast implant has been spread into organism tissues including lymph nodes and liver.
Conflict of interest: None

REFERENCES:

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Fig. 1. Right lobe of the liver with hypoechogenic focuses, ultrasound.

Fig. 2. Liver core biopsy: magnification 100 x (H & E). Dilatation of portal tracts due to foam cells. Foam cells are filled with an empty vacuolas. Morphological structure of hepatocytes is not damaged.

Fig. 3. Liver core biopsy: magnification 400 x (H & E).