

Malignant Paraganglioma in Pregnancy

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A 38-year-old, G2, P1 woman at 25 weeks gestation was found to have a 20-cm multiloculated retroperitoneal mass on MRI (Figure 1). The incidentally found mass was removed 2 months after term delivery. Histopathology and hormonal findings led to the diagnosis of a non-functioning malignant paraganglioma. Additionally, SPECT/CT-MIBG showed a metastatic lesion on the patient's liver (Figure 2). After a course of combined radiotherapy and chemotherapy, the patient had not experienced recurrent lesions at 2 years of follow-up.

Paraganglioma is classified according to its sympathetic hypersecretion and location. One-third of abdominal paragangliomas are non-functioning, and 50%–70% of them are malignant.¹ Paraganglioma in pregnancy is rare, with less than 30 cases reported, and malignant paraganglioma in pregnancy is exceptionally.² Bright lesions on T2-weighted MRI with avid enhancement after gadolinium administration is a classical finding; however, the appearance of paraganglioma can be quite variable in the presence of necrosis or hemorrhage.

Figure 1.

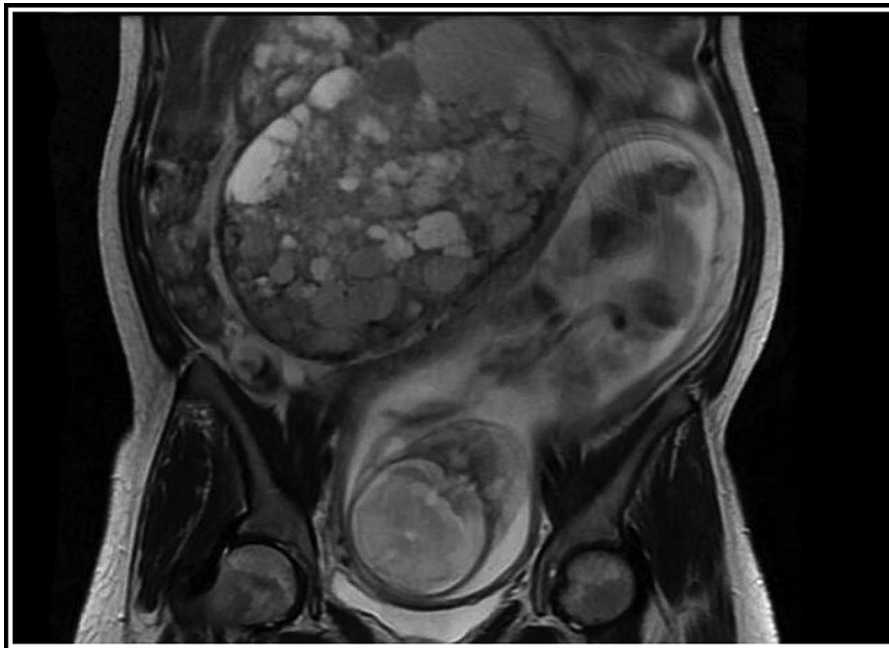
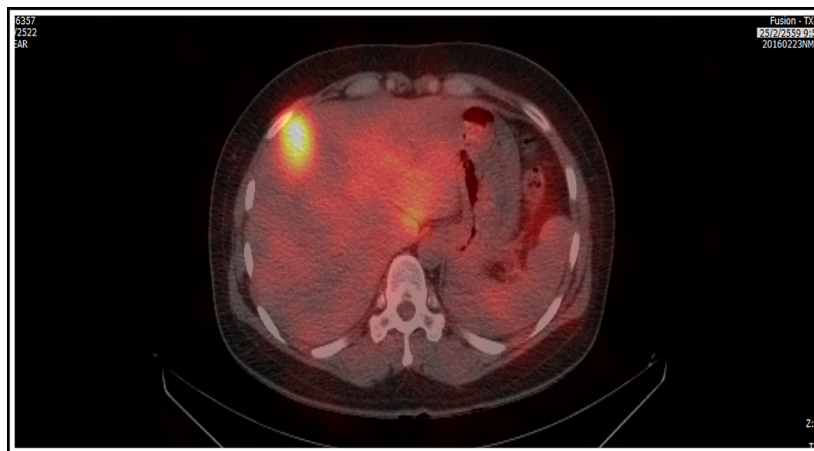


Figure 2.



Consent: Consent to publish these images was obtained from the patient.

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