

Pulmonary extra-nodal mucosa-associated lymphoid tissue (MALT) lymphoma: A rare cause of persistent lung consolidation

ABSTRACT

Pulmonary extra-nodal marginal zone B-cell lymphoma, also known as extra-nodal mucosa-associated lymphoid tissue (MALT) lymphoma, is rare among all nonHodgkin lymphomas and generally among all pulmonary malignancies. We present a 46-year-old lady with persistent right lower lung consolidation despite earlier treatment efforts with intravenous antibiotics for community acquired pneumonia. Apart from initial presentation with a short 3-day history of fever, cough and shortness of breath, she had remained largely asymptomatic throughout the follow-up period. Flexible bronchoscopy done ruled out infectious aetiologies but transbronchial lung biopsies showed atypical lymphocytes. A computed tomography guided core biopsy of her right lung consolidation was subsequently performed, confirming a diagnosis of pulmonary MALT lymphoma. She was promptly referred to the haematology team for further management and commencement of chemotherapy. Pulmonary MALT lymphoma, albeit uncommon and often follows a relatively indolent course, should be considered as a differential diagnosis among patients with persistent lung consolidation.