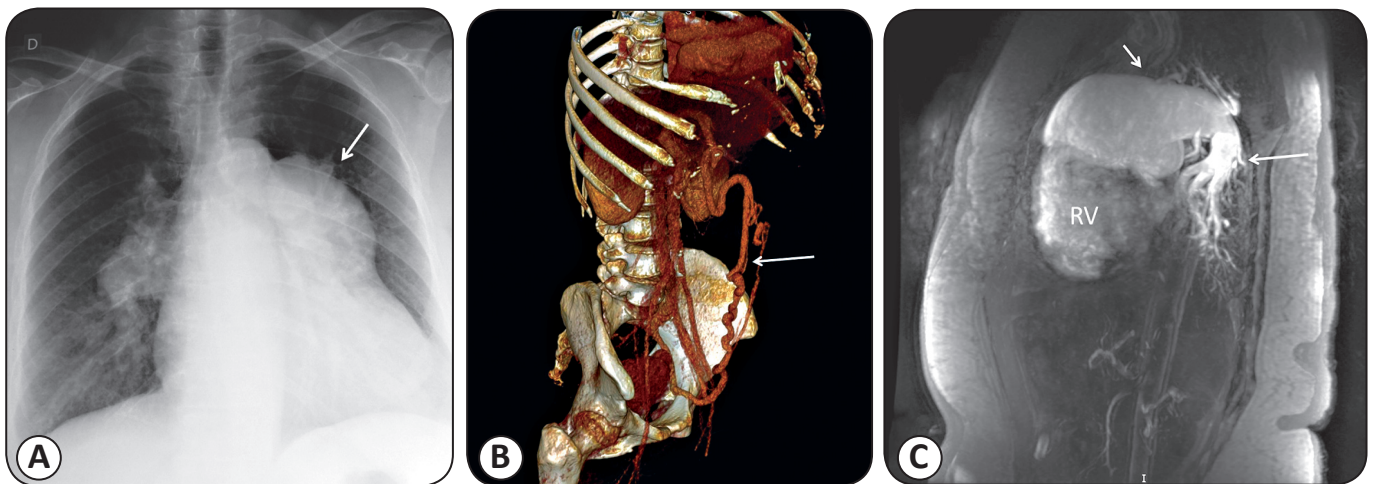


Dilated paraumbilical vein in hepatosplenic schistosomiasis associated with pulmonary hypertension

José Roberto Lambertucci^[1], Eduardo Belisário Falcheto^[2] and Vinicius Alves Lara Santos^[2]

[1]. Departamento de Clínica Médica, Faculdade de Medicina, Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais, Belo Horizonte, MG. [2]. Serviço de Radiologia, Hospital das Clínicas, Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais, Belo Horizonte, MG.



A 58-year-old female patient was admitted to hospital with a history of dyspnea, cough and chest pain which started one year before the present admission. In the last 15 days she noticed worsening of her previous symptoms. There was also peripheral edema, tachycardia and palpitation with limitation corresponding to functional class IV (World Health Organization). She came from an area endemic for schistosomiasis and had the hepatosplenic form of the disease. She was also obese. Abominal ultrasound confirmed the diagnosis of periportal fibrosis and portal hypertension. Chest X-ray showed a prominent fourth arch (**Figure A**: white arrow). Right heart catheterization showed a pulmonary artery systolic pressure of 88mmHg and a mean pulmonary pressure of 46mmHg. A computerized tomography of the abdomen with 3D reconstruction showed the presence of a large venous shunt (dilated paraumbilical vein) connecting the portal system to the left iliac vein/inferior vena cava (**Figure B**). Magnetic resonance

imaging of the heart revealed a great dilation of the pulmonary artery (**Figure C**: short arrow: pulmonary truncus; large arrow: left pulmonary artery; RV: right ventricle). In this case the contribution of the porta-pulmonary shunt to the development of pulmonary hypertension has been suggested as one of the many factors responsible for this complication in hepatosplenic schistosomiasis mansoni.

REFERENCES

1. Butrous G, Ghofrani HA, Grimminger F. Pulmonary vascular disease in the developing world. *Circulation* 2008; 118:1758-1766.
2. Lambertucci JR. *Schistosoma mansoni*: pathological and clinical aspects. In: Jordan P, Webbe G, Sturrock RF, editors. Wallingford, Oxon, UK: Cab International; 1993. p. 195-235.
3. Lambertucci JR, Serufo JC, Gerspacher-Lara R, Rayes AA, Teixeira R, Nobre V, et al. *Schistosoma mansoni*: assessment of morbidity before and after control. *Acta Trop* 2000; 77:101-109.

Address to: Dr. José Roberto Lambertucci. Dept^o Clínica Médica/Serviço de Doenças Infecciosas e Parasitárias/UFMG. Av. Alfredo Balena 190, 30130-100 Belo Horizonte, MG, Brasil.

Phone: 55 31 3337-7781

e-mail: lamber@uai.com.br

Received 24 September 2013

Accepted 24 October 2013