

Diseases mimicking advanced-stage epithelial ovarian cancer

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Abstract

This paper draws attention towards 3 cases with different pathologies all of which suggesting however both clinically and by imaging means as the most likely diagnosis advanced-stage epithelial ovarian cancer since all these three postmenopausal women had been admitted to the hospital with ascites, pelvic masses and deterioration of the physical well-being (fatigue, decreased appetite, weight loss, pallor). Findings during exploratory laparotomy on all these three patients included ascites (hemorrhagic in one case) diffuse tumorous implants throughout the abdominal and pelvic peritoneal surfaces (in two cases) and the ovarian tumour. Post-operatively, the final histopathologic diagnoses consisted of primary peritoneal carcinoma (one patient), peritoneal tuberculosis (TB, one patient) and hepatic cirrhosis with an incidental benign adnexial mass (one patient). Moreover, nonmalignant ovarian tumours were certified in all three cases under current presentation. The differential diagnosis of the ovarian cancer and a tailored approach to treatment for each of these three pathological entities will also be detailed upon.

Key words: primary peritoneal carcinoma, peritoneal TB, hepatic cirrhosis, advanced-stage epithelial ovarian carcinoma, differential diagnosis, treatment

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