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Liver Cysts in Autosomal Dominant Polycystic Kidney Disease

Mariusz Niemczyk[1,*], Monika Gradzik[2] and Krzysztof Zieniewicz[3]

[1]Department of Immunology, Transplant Medicine and Internal Diseases; Medical University of Warsaw; Nowogrodzka 59, 02-006 Warsaw, Poland
[2]Department of Radiology; Medical University of Warsaw; Nowogrodzka 59, 02-006 Warsaw, Poland
[3]Department of General, Transplant and Liver Surgery; Medical University of Warsaw; Banacha 1A, 02-097 Warsaw, Poland

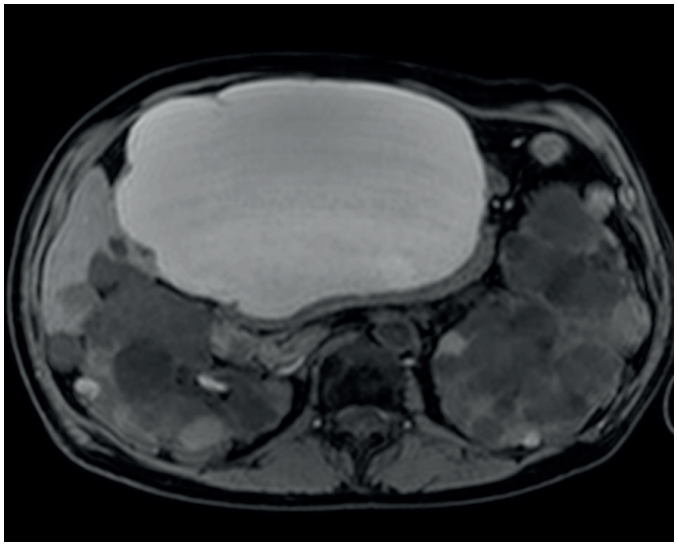

Figure 1: Magnetic resonance, T1-weighted image, axial plane. Giant cyst (187 × 125 × 163 mm) localized in the left lobe of polycystic liver. Polycystic kidneys.

We present magnetic resonance images of a 59-year-old Caucasian woman with stage 4 chronic kidney disease in a course of autosomal dominant polycystic kidney disease (ADPKD), and polycystic liver disease (PLD) with a dominant cysts leading to the mass effect (Figure 1). Laparoscopic fenestration of the largest cyst was done with uneventful follow-up.

PLD is defined as a liver containing above 20 cysts. It may be an isolated condition, or an extrarenal manifestation of ADPKD. In most cases, PLD is benign and asymptomatic [1]. However, in rare cases the condition may be complicated with massive hepatomegaly leading to compression of the surrounding organs, or acute complications [2]. Treatment options include (1) medical approach, with somatostatin analogues, or proliferation signal inhibitors, (2) interventional radiology, with arterial embolization, or percutaneous sclerotherapy, and (3) surgical intervention, with fenestration, hepatic resection, or liver transplantation in the most severe cases [2,3].

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***Corresponding author:** Dr. Mariusz Niemczyk; Department of Immunology, Transplant Medicine and Internal Diseases; Medical University of Warsaw; Nowogrodzka 59, 02-006 Warsaw, Poland, Tel: +48 22 502 1641; Fax: +48 22 502 2127; E-mail: mariuszniemczyk@wp.pl

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