

How to explore and analyze a complicated pancreatic pseudocyst using computer tomography

Adrian Dumitru Dijmarescu^{1,2}, Ioana Gabriela Lupescu^{1,2}, Emi Marinela Preda^{1,2}, Cristian Scheau^{1,2}, Gelu Adrian Popa^{1,2}, Andreea Scheau¹, Catalin Vasilescu^{2,3}

¹Department of Radiology and Medical Imaging, Fundeni Clinical Institute, Bucharest, Romania

²"Carol Davila" University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Bucharest, Romania

³Department of General Surgery and Liver Transplant, Fundeni Clinical Institute, Bucharest, Romania

ABSTRACT

Pancreatic pseudocysts are often complications of acute pancreatitis and chronic pancreatitis, secondary to pancreatic trauma or pancreatic duct obstruction. Computer tomography (CT) is the standard investigation for the diagnosis of pancreatic pseudocysts, but Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) is a better alternative for the detection and characterisation of this pathology. We present a case of a 43 year old male admitted with ascites who was investigated mainly by CT, both pre and post-operative, but also by MRI. The presented case illustrates an arterialized pancreatic pseudocyst, which is a rare complication associated with chronic pancreatitis. This case shows the importance of CT examination in pancreatic cystic lesions with vascular involvement. For unstable patients and modified cystic mass content, CT is the best imaging choice for evaluation and characterization.

Key words: Pancreatic pseudocysts, Computer Tomography, Magnetic Resonance Imaging