

COMPUTED TOMOGRAPHY CHARACTERISTICS OF LYMPHADENOPATHY IN PULMONARY SARCOIDOSIS

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Abstract

Modern criteria of computed tomography (CT) diagnostics of pulmonary sarcoidosis are divided in classic and atypical ones. Specific to sarcoidosis symptoms, which are rarely observed in other conditions, are considered classic symptoms. For instance, a complex of symptoms called, bilateral root lymphadenopathy (BRL), is found in 80 % of sarcoidosis patients and in only 4 % patients with lymphoma. In contrast, atypical lesions are more common in other diseases and rarely registered in sarcoidosis. For example, anterior mediastinal lymphadenopathy is typical for lymphogranulomatosis and quite rare in sarcoidosis.

CT characteristics of sarcoidosis lymphadenopathy are presented in current review. The examples of classic lymphadenopathy (symmetric, bilateral and mediastinal — enlargement of inferior paratracheal lymphnodes on the right, subcarinal and aorto-pulmonary lymphnodes). Atypical cases of hilar unilateral lymphadenopathy and anterior mediastinum lymphadenopathy are described as well.

The recommendations on interpretation of CT symptoms of thoracic lymphadenopathy are intended for practicing radiologists, pulmonologists and phthisiologists.

Key words: pulmonary sarcoidosis, lymphadenopathy, computed tomography.

Ukr. Pulmonol. J. 2019; 4:26–29.

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