

Delayed onset Post-cardiac Injury Syndrome presenting as bilateral pleural effusion following defibrillator insertion

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- Dressler's Syndrome or Post-cardiac Injury Syndrome (PCIS) is a well-defined entity characterised by a secondary pleuro-pericarditis in a setting of myocardial or pericardial insult.
- Dressler's syndrome was originally described after acute myocardial infarction and its incidence seems to be declining, owing to modern reperfusion modalities.
- However, other causes for this syndrome are emerging.

Different causes for PCIS have been identified.

1- Post pericardiotomy +++

2- Post infarction syndrome +++

3- Post-traumatic pericarditis +

4- Iatrogenic causes including intracardiac interventions and pacemaker lead insertion ???

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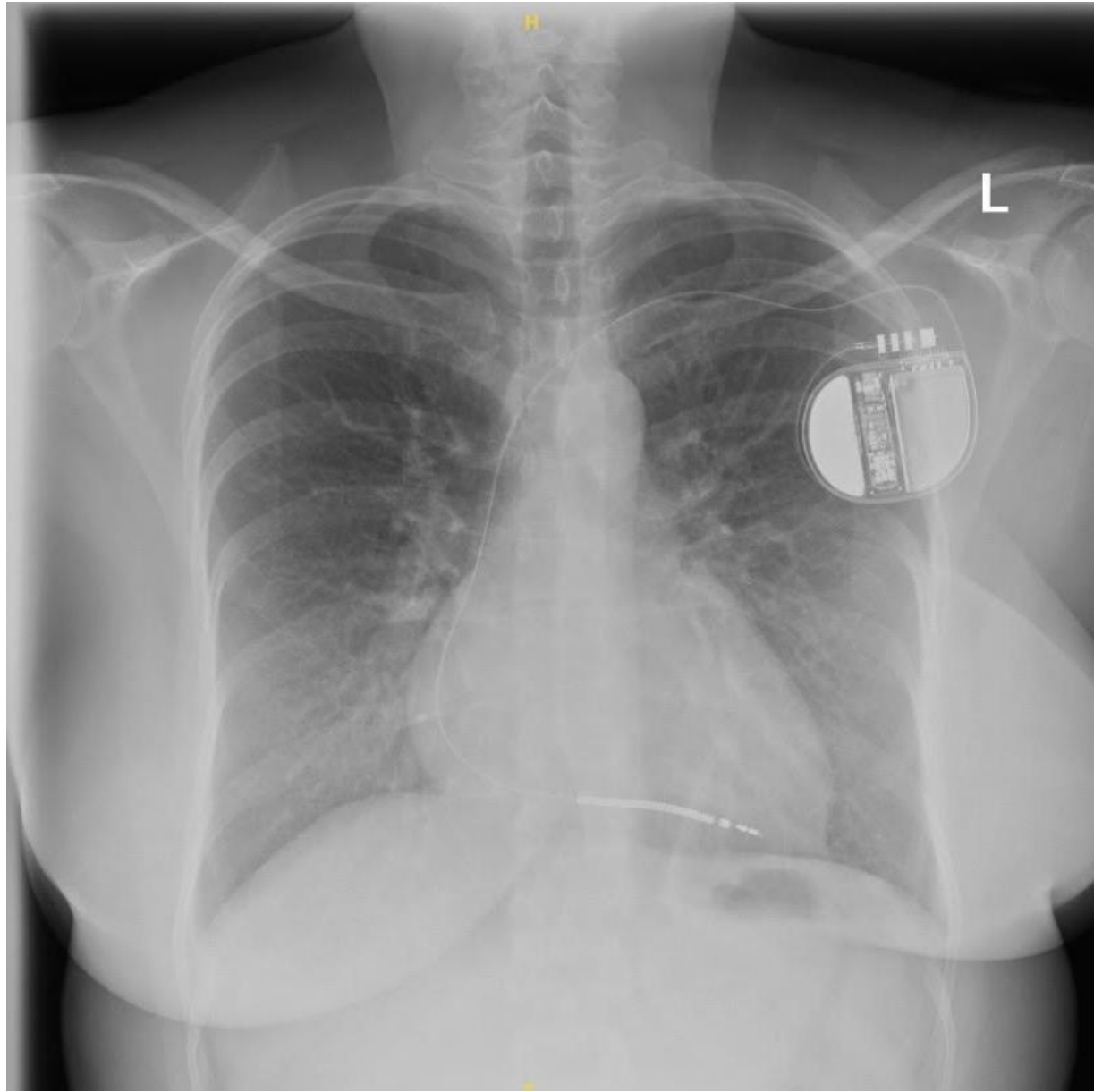
Case Presentation

Case Presentation

- A 45-year-old middle eastern female
- Dyslipidemia
- History of smoking (1 pack per day for 20 years)
- Congenital hypertrophic cardiomyopathy
- Familial history of sudden cardiac death at an early age

Case Presentation

- Single chamber ICD implanted due to her high-risk cardiomyopathy in March 2022
- Follow up
- Chest X-RAY



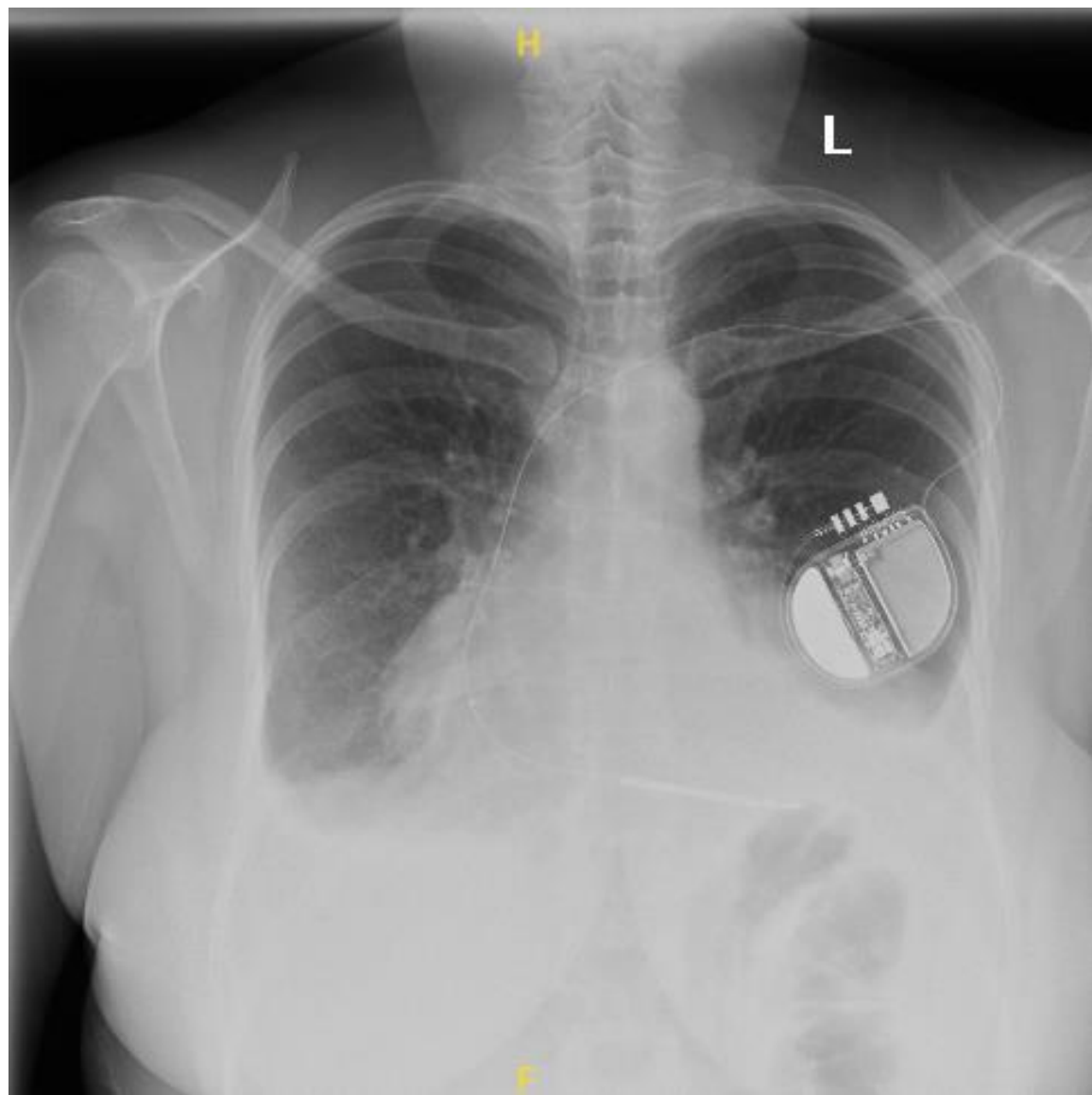
Case Presentation

- ED - December 2022 for chest pain - dyspnea NYHA III
- Subacute presentation
- Antibiotic course (Levofloxacin)

- She then presented to our hospital for evaluation.

Physical exam

- Afebrile but tachycardic and tachypneic.
- No fever, chills, cough, or sputum production.



- Cardiac ultrasound

Laboratory workup

- WBC $11.8 \times 10^9 /L$
- Hg of 10.9 g/dl
- ESR of 31
- CRP 65 → 230
- LDH 69
- Protein 192

Laboratory workup

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→ Pleural tap

	Left Side
pH	7.64
LDH (U/L)	290
Protein (g/L)	44
Glucose (mmol/L)	5
GR	1 400 000
GB	2400
PNN	48%
Lymph	15%
Mononuclear	20%
Macrophage	17%

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→ Ratio 1.5

→ Ratio 0.63

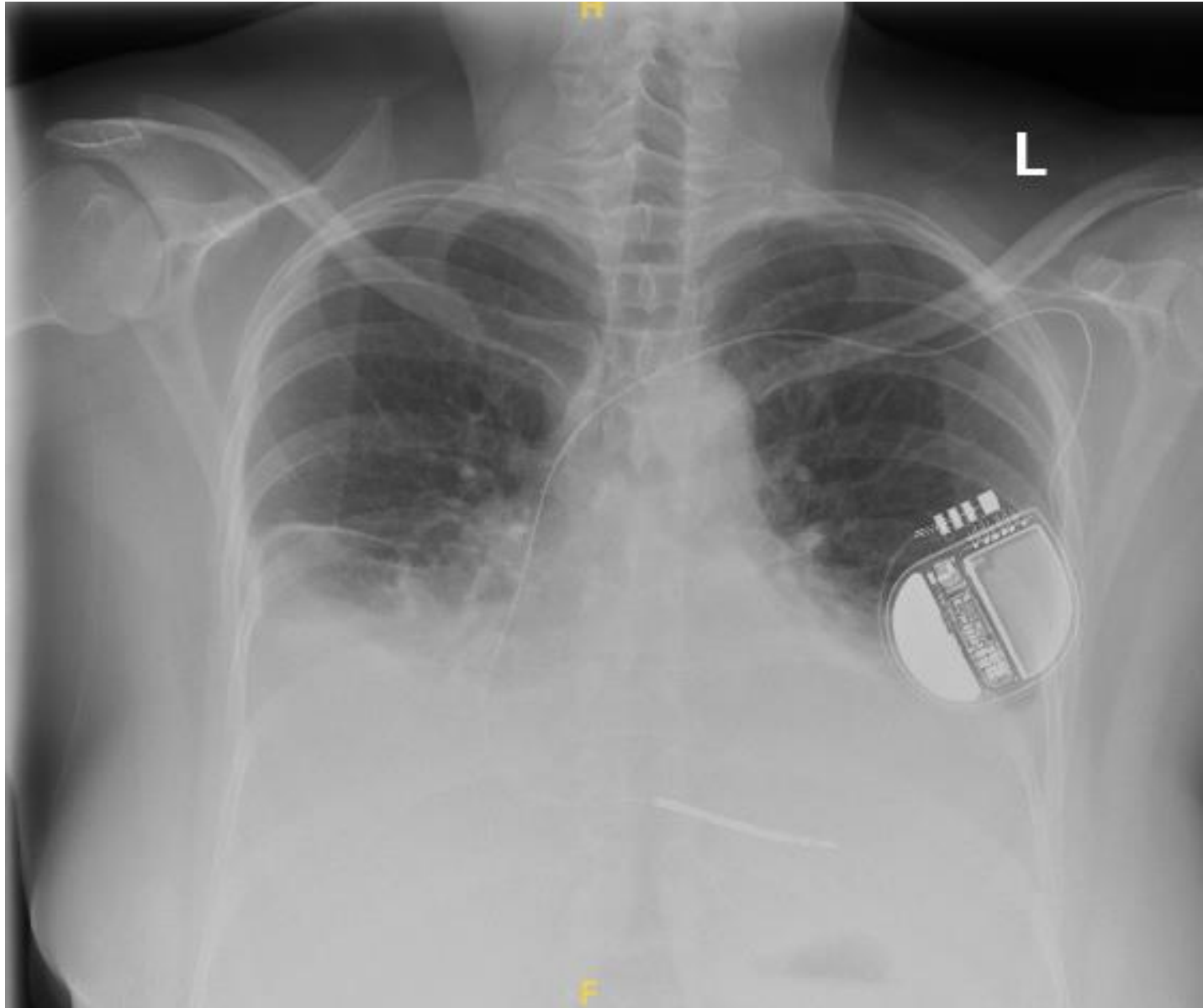


Exudate

Day 2

- Clinical worsening
- Dyspnea
- Oxygen supplementation

Day 2



	Left Side	Right Side
pH	7.64	7.67
LDH (U/L)	290	228
Protein (g/L)	44	42
Glucose (mmol/L)	5	6
GR	1 400 000	2000
GB	2400	5000
PNN	48%	46%
Lymphocyte	15%	13%
Mononuclear	20%	10%
Macrophage	17%	31%

Laboratory workup

- Pleural fluid microbiology, including bacterial, fungal, and acid-fast bacilli cultures: Negative.
- Auto-immune panel : Negative
- PPD: Negative
- Pathology : Hematic and inflammatory liquid with immunohistochemistry positive for calretinin and negative for BerEP4 confirming the mesothelial origin of the cells.
- No malignant cells were observed.
- **Delayed onset Post-cardiac Injury Syndrome**




- She was treated with NSAIDs (Naproxen) and discharged on colchicine.
- Gradual improvement.
- On follow up patient was asymptomatic with full disappearance of any pleural fluid.

**Delayed onset Post-cardiac Injury Syndrome
presenting as bilateral pleural effusion following defibrillator insertion**

- Four published cases of post pacemaker PCIS.



Pacemaker-Associated Post-cardiac Injury Syndrome Presenting with Tamponade and Recurrent Pleural Effusion

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CASE REPORT

The return of a disappearing entity: Dressler's syndrome after transvenous pacemaker implantation

António Tralhão, Diogo Cavaco, Marisa Trabulo, António M Ferreira



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Post-cardiac injury syndrome: an atypical case following percutaneous coronary intervention

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Large Unilateral Pleural Effusion with Pacemaker-associated Post-cardiac Injury Syndrome

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- Four published cases of post pacemaker PCIS.
- One case of exclusive pleural involvement.
- One case of delayed presentation.
- The first ever reported case of post pacemaker PCIS presenting as a strict pulmonary presentation with bilateral involvement and delayed onset.

Why this case ?

Similarities vs Differences

Why this case ?

Similarities vs Differences

- 1- Delayed onset
- 2- Strict pleural presentation
- 3- Bilateral pleural involvement

1- This case challenges the current understanding of PCIS and highlights the need to consider it as a possible etiology for pleural effusion.

2- It also supports an autoimmune etiology for PCIS and calls for further investigation into its pathophysiology.

THANK YOU