Case of the month December 2012

78-year-old woman with abdominal pain.

An ultrasound of the abdomen was done.

• What are the imaging findings?
• What is the diagnosis?
Ideas so far?

- On ultrasound:
  - Ill defined echogenic focus within the spleen.

- The patient next had a CT of the abdomen & pelvis.
Imaging Findings

- There is a large well-defined cystic lesion within the splenic parenchyma
- Contains discontinuous peripheral calcifications
- No internal septations or soft-tissue nodularity
- No other lesions are identified
Diagnosis

- Splenic Hydatid Cyst
Discussion

• Involvement of the spleen in hydatid disease is rare (reported prevalence varies from 0.9% to 8%).

• Splenic hydatid disease generally develops by means of systemic dissemination or intraperitoneal spread from a ruptured liver cyst.

• The most frequent clinical signs and symptoms are abdominal pain, splenomegaly and fever
Discussion

• Splenic hydatid cysts are usually solitary, and their imaging characteristics are similar to those of hepatic HCs.

• A simple cyst, cystic lesion containing daughter cysts or calcified cyst could be encountered on cross-sectional imaging.
References


• Case submitted by Abdullah Alabousi