

# 7/25/24 Morning Report with @CPSolvers

"One life, so many dreams" Case Presenter: Yuki (@tevzi00475) Case Discussants: Rabih(@rabihmgeha) and Parisa(@parisabediii)

**CC:** 65 F presenting w/1 wk right flank pain

**HPI:**

1wk prior, had tingling pain on R flank which was similar to zoster she experienced before. 6/10 pain, gradual, tingling quality. Difficulty sleeping at night. No radiation. Heating pad did not help. Deep breathing & exercise did not make it worse.

**Vitals:** T: 97.7 F HR: 88 BP: 133/88 RR: 12 , 98% on RA

**Exam:**

**Gen:** awake, alert, NAD

**HEENT:** nl CV: nl **Pulm:** nl **Abd:** nl **Neuro:** nl

**Extremities/skin:** Exposed skin normal with no rashes, but slight redness on R flank. No rib tenderness.

**Notable Labs & Imaging:**

**Hematology:**

WBC: 3.2 Hgb: 12 Plt: 202

**Chemistry:**

Na 141: K: 4.4 Cl: 101 BUN: 19 Cr: 0.72

AST: 36 ALT: 26 Alk-P: 117 Albumin: 4.4

LDH 308 CK 133 CRP 0.05 (nl) CXR: normal

At this point, ddx included prodromal herpes zoster; rx'd acyclovir, pregabalin, consider CT chest if symptoms persisted. 1wk after d/c, experienced exacerbation of pain & re-presented.

**Imaging:**

CT w/o contrast: mass extending into spinal canal from T2/3 intervertebral foramen.

MR: tumor extending from T2/3 epidural space to the paravertebral region, involving vertebral body & arch and ribs. T2 sequence: high intensity lesion, significant diffusion restriction w/heterogeneous enhancement from an early stage.

Needle biopsy: malignant DLBCL

**Dx:** Diffuse large B cell lymphoma

**Problem Representation:** 65F hx zoster p/w persistent tingling R flank pain, found to have T2/3 vertebral mass with pathology c/w DLBCL

**Teaching Points (Hee):**

65-year-old with right flank pain, tingling quality, past herpes zoster, a significant R.flank pain- Approach

**Deep vs Surface:** Kidney with pain (vascular obstruction (thrombosis, stone) vs parenchyma( RCC) vs Muscular issue(movement) //lung and retroperitoneal issues. Tingling:nerve irritation( neuropathy)

**Pain predominant syndrome** - further looking at physical exam and lab results.

**Skin redness:** infection, irritation, and venous hypertension or due to scratch

**Mild leukopenia( HIV), mildly elevated LDH (rhabdomyolysis, hemolysis, or malignancy), and mild ALP(bone) —**consider further investigation necessary or symptomatic treatment(clinically watching 1-2 weeks

If a patient is symptomatic (e.g., skin redness, bony process compressing a nerve, paget, nerve related issue ), consider an abdominal CT scan to evaluate abdominal and retroperitoneal issues- if negative - MRI

**CT/ MRI:**Tumor ( DLBCL)extension affecting the spinal canal and paravertebral region, involvement of the vertebral body, arch, and ribs, leading to localized pain, nerve compression

**Myelopathy** (immediate imaging for spinal cord compression) vs. **Radiculopathy** ( this patient - nerve root /tingling or VZV coexistence with Herpes zoster so treat first).

**PMH:**  
HTN controlled  
HLD  
Zoster, LL back 15 yr ago

**Meds:**  
Losartan 25  
Atorvastatin 10  
None new in last year

**Soc Hx:**  
Lives with husband, worked as farmer  
No pets

**Health-Related Behaviors:**  
Nonsmoker, no drinking/drugs  
No tick bites, exposure to farm animals, or recent travel

**Allergies:**  
None