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Diffuse Osteolytic Metastases of Prostate Adenocarcinoma

Sarandão SM[1*], Sousa F[1] and Arantes M[2]

[1]Department of External Radiotherapy. Instituto Português de Oncologia do Porto FG, EPE. Porto. Portugal

[2]Division of Neuroradiology, Department of Radiology. Instituto Português de Oncologia do Porto FG, EPE. Porto. Portugal

[*]Corresponding author:

Susana Maria Sarandão de Sousa,
Department of External Radiotherapy.
Instituto Português de Oncologia do Porto FG,
EPE. Porto. Portugal,
E-mail: susana.sarandao.sousa@ipoporto.min-saude.pt;
susanasarandao@gmail.com

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1. Clinical Image

A 52-year-old man presented with a 2-month history of low back pain. Computed tomography (CT) of thoracolumbar spine showed diffuse osteolytic bone metastases (Figure 1). Physical examination revealed a digital rectal exam compatible with frozen pelvis. His prostate-specific antigen (PSA) was 4935 ng/ml. A prostate biopsy was done, and the subsequent histology confirmed an adenocarcinoma Gleason 8 (4+4). He underwent spine magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) which confirmed diffuse osteolytic bone metastases (Figure 2). The patient initiated hormone therapy and systemic chemotherapy, as well as palliative radiation therapy for bone pain relief.

Prostate cancer commonly metastasizes to bone, and the metastases are typically radiologically osteoblastic [1]. Presentation with diffuse osteolytic bone metastases is rare and only a few case reports exist in the medical literature [2-4]. Prostate cancer should be contemplated in the differential diagnosis when evaluating male patients with osteolytic bone lesions.

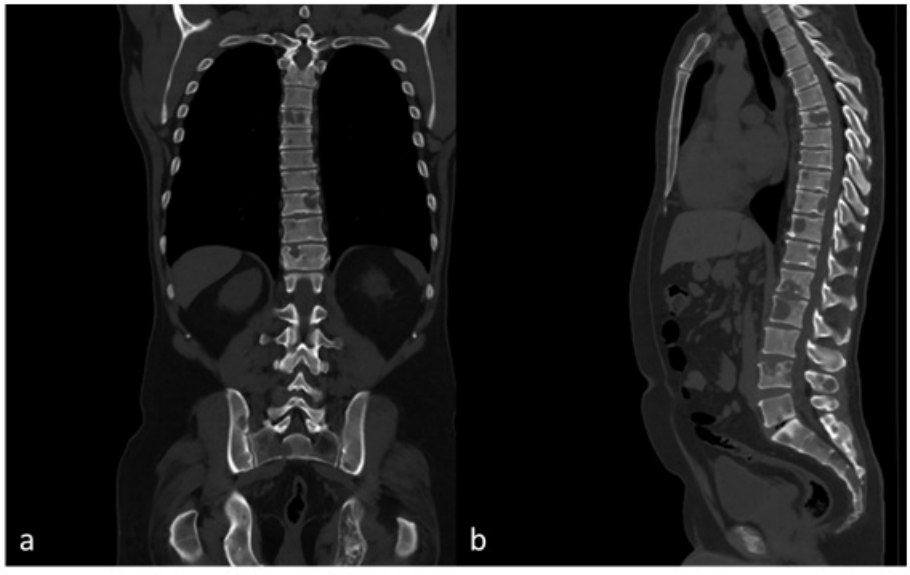

Figure 1: CT showing multiple osteolytic bone metastases in a patient with prostate adenocarcinoma. (a) Coronal and (b) sagittal planes.

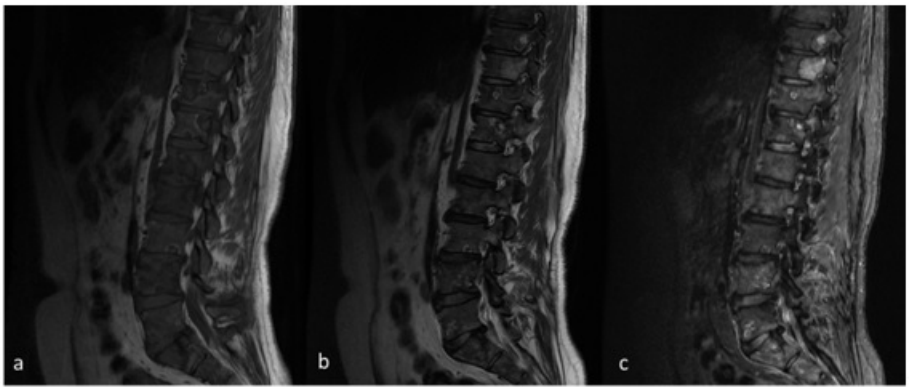

Figure 2: Sagittal T1-weighted (a), T2-weighted (b) and STIR (c) MRI displaying osteolytic bone metastases of a prostate adenocarcinoma.

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