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Congenital anomalies of the inferior vena cava: a factor to consider in the algorithm of deep vein thrombosis with therapeutic implications.

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ABSTRACT

Inferior vena cava anomalies (IVC) are rare defects resulting from aberrant development during embryogenesis and constitute a risk factor for thromboembolic disease. They are usually observed in asymptomatic patients as an incidental finding or together with other cardiac and/or abdominal anomalies.

With advances in diagnostic imaging, IVC anomalies have emerged as a new factor to be considered in the etiologic diagnostic algorithm of deep vein thrombosis (DVT) and as a thrombotic risk factor.

IVC anomaly should be suspected in young patients with lower limb DVT when one or both iliac veins are involved and in patients with recurrent thrombosis. Whenever a dilated azygos or Hemi-azygos vein is found on chest CT, additional images should be obtained to identify IVC abnormalities. The coexistence of other risk factors for thrombosis should always be considered.

We present a patient with intrahepatic IVC hypoplasia who consulted for DVT of the left external iliac vein and in whom we could not demonstrate the presence of other prothrombotic risk factors. We emphasize the importance of the role of CT angiography in the diagnosis and the therapeutic decision of permanent anticoagulation.

BIOGRAPHY

My name is Giovanna Macello. I was born in 1994 in Mendoza, Argentina and I graduated from the Faculty of Medicine at Universidad de Mendoza in 2018. Currently, I am an Internal Medicine Resident at Central Hospital in Mendoza, Argentina. I have a postgraduate degree in Critical Ultrasonography from the Faculty of Medicine at Universidad de Buenos Aires (Argentina) and I use the knowledge I acquired there in my daily practice since the ultrasonography is a crucial complementary exam.

Some of my goals are to travel around the world, learn different languages and experiment cultural exchange. In my medical career, I have been able to do clinical rotations at Santa Maria Nuova Hospital in Reggio Emilia, Italy with Dr. Carlo Salvarani, Head of the Rheumatology Department, a specialty I would like to dedicate to, and with Dr. Silvia Tanzi in the Palliative Care Unit.

I am currently doing a Master in Clinical Research and I am working on a project with Dr. Nicolas Renna as the director of the thesis.

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