

Interesting Image

Incidentally detected abnormal finding of femoral bone mineral densitometry due to paraffin injections for buttock augmentation

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ABSTRACT

Bone mineral densitometry (BMD) is an important tool for diagnosing osteoporosis and osteopenia. However, as confirmed by several studies, imaging also serves as a significant tool in providing additional information about the patient. Therefore, radiotechnologists performing BMD tests should not overlook imaging information. Thus, the author aims to report abnormal findings near the left buttock in the BMD test of a 53-year-old woman who underwent diagnosis and resection surgery for breast cancer.

Key words: Bone Mineral Densitometry, Paraffin, Buttock

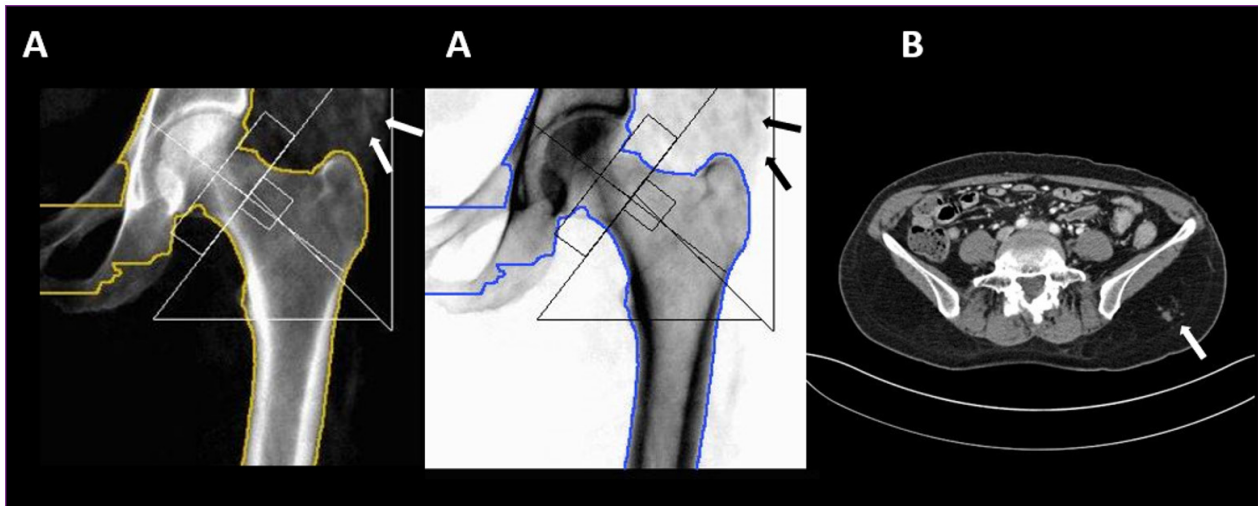


Fig. 1. A 53-year-old female patient, who underwent breast resection due to breast cancer, showed abnormal findings in the left buttock(arrow)area on femur bone density(A) and CT (arrow) scan (B). The patient had a history of receiving paraffin injections for buttock augmentation, and traces of it were observed in the imaging.

Many women seek medical attention for breast or buttock enhancement as the breasts and buttocks, considered symbols of femininity, constitute a significant portion of the body image. A prevalent method for achieving beautiful and balanced breasts and buttocks is through the use of implants to enhance size and shape. However, in the past, due to the cost and recovery period associated with implant insertion, as well as psychological resistance, many opted for paraffin injections to increase volume.

A 53-year-old female patient who underwent breast resection following breast cancer surgery exhibited abnormal findings in the left buttock area on femur bone density(Fig. 1A) and CT (Fig. 1B) scan. The patient had previously received paraffin injections for buttock augmentation, and traces of it were observed in the imaging.

Paraffin injections, also known as collagen injections, were once referred to as a procedure, but recently, it has been recognized that when injected into the body, they can exhibit toxicity and gradually damage tissue over months to decades. Consequently, preemptive removal of paraffin is recommended to mitigate the potential risk of side effects such as skin necrosis, tissue consolidation in the breasts or buttocks, and acute inflammation before they occur.

Paraffin can affect bone density values, so radiotechnologists should carefully review this aspect.

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