



# Case #91

NAME Educational Activities Committee

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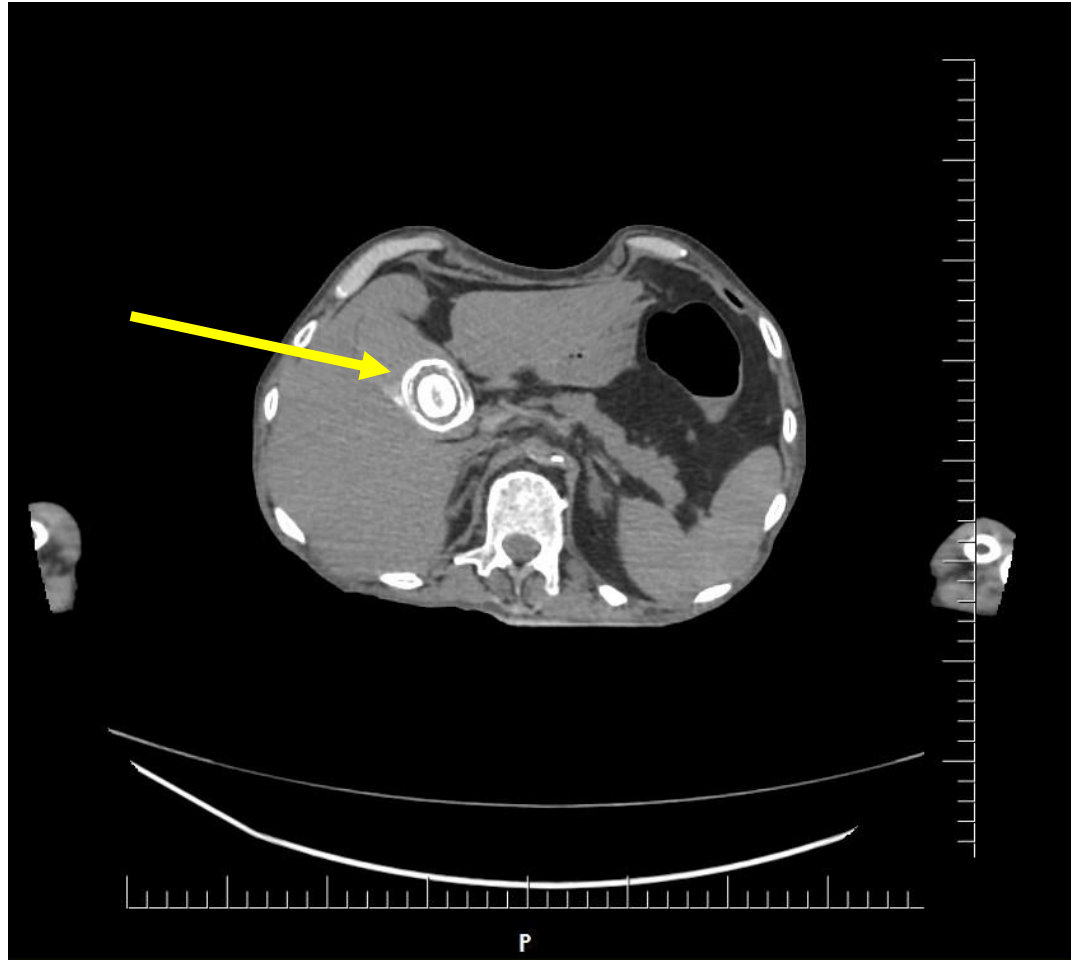


Figure 1

A 59-year-old woman is found deceased in her home, with a history of chronic alcoholism. The external examination identified scleral icterus and the decedent was cachectic. What is the finding seen on postmortem imaging (Image 1)?

- a. Calcified granuloma
- b. Hepatocellular carcinoma
- c. Echinococcus
- d. Porcelain gallbladder with cholelithiasis
- e. Hepatic abscess

Answer:

## D. Porcelain gallbladder with cholelithiasis

Shown on CT is a porcelain gallbladder with a gallstone.

Porcelain gallbladder is a term used to describe calcification of the inner wall of the gallbladder. It is strongly associated with cholelithiasis and thought to occur due to chronic gallbladder inflammation. It is seen most often in elderly females. Most patients are asymptomatic. Historically, porcelain gallbladder was associated with cholangiocarcinoma; however, this is now being debated.

Other responses:

## A. Calcified granuloma

Though granulomas can be identified in any part of the body, calcified (or partially calcified) granulomas are often associated with infection and observed in the lungs. Classic CT findings of tuberculosis include centrilobular small nodules, branching linear opacities, cavitation, and lymph node enlargement.

## B. Hepatocellular carcinoma

Hepatocellular carcinoma is strongly associated with cirrhosis. In most cases, it appears hypodense on CT imaging. Calcifications are rarely present.

## C. Echinococcus

Echinococcus is a helminth that can cause liver calcifications. These are classically described as eggshell calcifications on imaging.

## E. Hepatic abscess

*Entamoeba histolytica* can cause an amebic liver abscess. Most are found in the right lobe and appear as a solitary low-density mass with a peripheral enhancing rim.



# Citations

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