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The association of a functional parathyroid cyst with a parathyroid adenoma is an uncommon finding. In this report we describe the clinical history of a 60-yr-old man, presenting with the following findings: hypercalcemia (18.9 mg/dl), elevated serum parathormone levels (1320 pg/dl), hypercalciuria (228 mg/dl), and hyperphosphaturia (155 mg/dl). Neck ultrasound, magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) and ⁹⁹Tc Sestamibi scintigraphy led to the identification of a left parathyroid adenoma, located at the lower pole of the left thyroid gland lobe, associated with a parathyroid cyst, located at the upper extremity of the same thyroid lobe. Parathyroidectomy was performed and the histological examination confirmed the diagnosis of a parathyroid adenoma with aspects of cystic degeneration and an upper parathyroid cyst. Analysis of the crystal clear intracystic fluid showed elevated parathyroid hormone (PTH) levels (137.000 pg/ml). The patient is normocalcemic at 2 yr after surgery without signs of recurrent parathyroid enlargements. Aetiology, diagnosis and management of parathyroid cyst will be discussed.

PMID: 14594122 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]

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