
INCIDENTAL ULTRASOUND FINDING OF BILATERAL DEFICIENCY OF THE PECTORALIS MAJOR MUSCLE IN BREAST CANCER SURVIVOR – COULD IT BE POLAND SYNDROME? – A CASE REPORT

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SAŽETAK

Poland syndrome is a rare congenital musculoskeletal anomaly with a wide diversity of clinical presentations. The deformity most often involves unilateral absence or hypoplasia of the pectoralis major muscle, sometimes accompanied by other anomalies. Rarely, bilateral deficiency of the muscles can be found and it is still undetermined if it is true Poland syndrome or some other entity. Scarce reports associate Poland syndrome with different malignancies such as leukaemia, leiomyosarcoma, cervical or breast cancer as well. Hereby, we present a case of a 49-year-old woman presented to our Hospital in November 2023 for shoulder ultrasound exam, as part of shoulder pain research in breast cancer survivors. The patient had a medical history of breast, endometrial and thyroid cancer. Due to invasive ductal carcinoma a left quadrantectomy and axillary dissection were performed in 2011. The patient complained about the lack of strength during training activities, being unable to do a single push-up. Bilateral shoulder protrusion was noted without shoulder pain or decrease in ROM. Physical examination also revealed chest wall deformity, scoliosis and elevated scapula. Left arm secondary lymphedema was present. There were no hand or fingers deformities. Ultrasonography revealed the absence of the sternal portion of both

pectoralis major muscles. It was the first time that the patient was noted to have this deficiency, a finding that could be indicative of Poland syndrome. Our case stresses out the importance of considering coexistence of Poland syndrome in patients with breast cancer, especially when they have history of multiple malignancies. Existence of muscle deficiency changes breast cancer treatment approach, both operative and conservative, which should be more extensive. Also, once again it raises a question whether bilateral pectoralis major deficiency could be considered as Poland syndrome or a separate entity.