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Pericardial effusion "in snowfall"

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Images in medicine

A 23-year-old young man with discovery acute leukemia admitted for pre-chemotherapy echocardiography. Transthoracic echocardiography (four cavity and two cavity found good systolic function of the left ventricle with moderate circumferential pericardial effusion containing hyperechoic micronodules give the appearance like "snowfall" without hemodynamic repercussions. This aspect of pericardial effusion, never described, can be paraneoplastic or reactive due to the leukemia. The evolution after chemotherapy was favorable with disappearance of hyperechoic nodules and then the effusion.

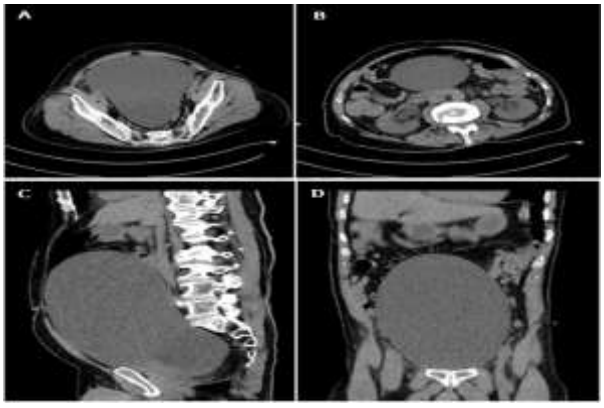

Figure 1: abdominal and pelvic CT showing a bladder with a balloon-like appearance, occupying the entire pelvis and reaching up to the level of the kidneys with bilateral hydronephrosis. (A,B): axial sections; (C) sagittal section; (D) coronal section