

Lobular carcinoma of the breast – an unusual presentation

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The patient, a 44-year-old woman from Chris Hani Baragwanath Hospital, was a para 5 gravida 5 post-menopausal woman, who had breastfed her children for 2 years in total. She was not on hormone replacement therapy.

The patient was being treated for a pseudotumour of the right orbit as the computed tomography (CT) scan demonstrated a large right retrobulbar mass, as well as meningeal thickening. To ascertain a primary cause for the above picture, a mammogram (MMG) was done. The MMG demonstrated extensive bilateral patchy spiculated densities with associated amorphous microcalcifications, and axillary nodes (Figs 1 and 2).

Ultrasound (US) demonstrated ill-defined hypoechoic areas with scattered microcalcifications (Fig 3).

The patient had bilateral core biopsies done. The histological finding was that of bilateral invasive lobular carcinoma.

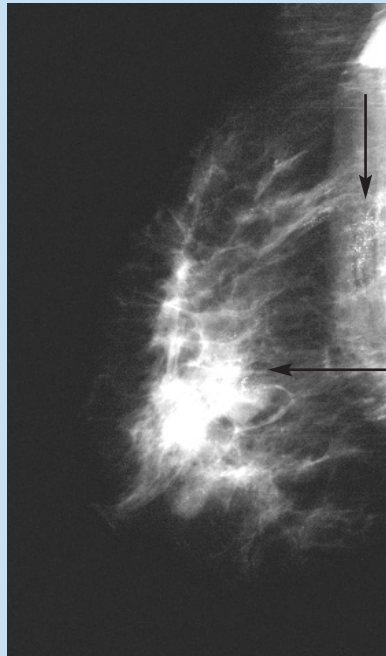


Fig. 1a. Mammogram showing amorphous microcalcifications.

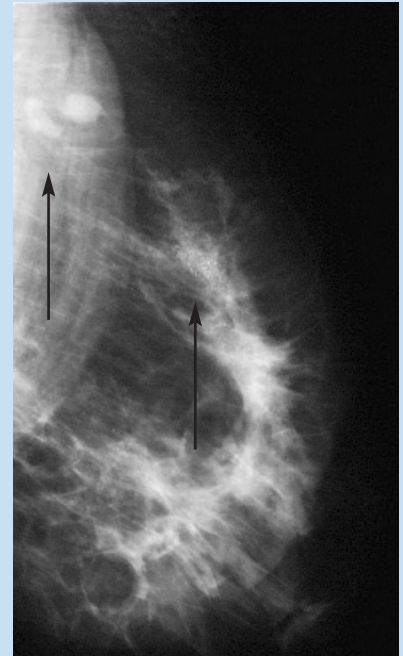


Fig. 1b. Mammogram showing nodes, microcalcifications and patchy spiculated densities.



Fig. 3. Ultrasound scan - transverse image of the right breast showing ill-defined hypoechoic lesion and microcalcifications.

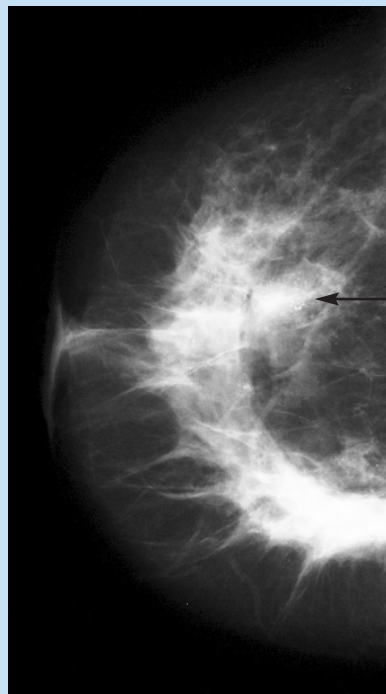


Fig. 2a. Mammogram showing microcalcifications.

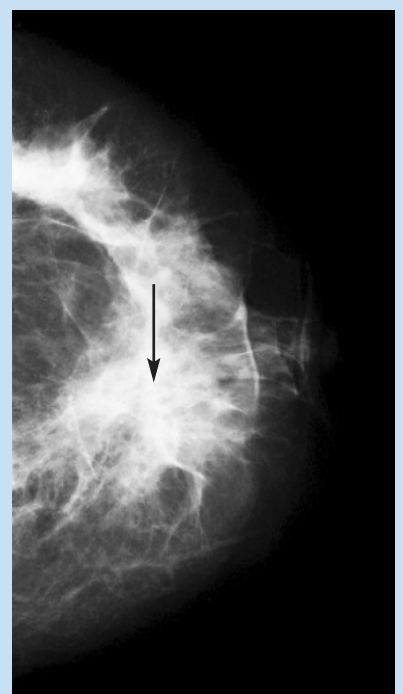


Fig. 2b. Mammogram showing patchy spiculated densities.