Scintigraphic diagnosis of intrathoracic extramedullary hematopoiesis in a patient with β-thalassemia

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We report the scintigraphic diagnosis of intrathoracic extramedullary hematopoiesis (EMH) in a patient with β-thalassemia. A patient had a mass in the right thoracic paravertebral region on radiography and CT. Bone marrow imaging of the thorax by means of both 99mTc nanocolloid and phytate demonstrated uptake of the tracer in the mediastinal mass, establishing the diagnosis of EMH.

Key words: extramedullary hematopoiesis, bone marrow imaging, β-thalassemia