Technetium-99m pertechnetate uptake in ectopic parathyroid adenoma

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A 37-year-old male with a persistent increased parathyroid hormone level, after subtotal thyroidectomy and parathyroidectomy, was referred for scintigraphic localization of a possible ectopic parathyroid adenoma. Tc-99m pertechnetate and Tc-99m MIBI scintigraphy were performed on separate days. There was marked uptake of both tracers in the mediastinum, which at surgery was confirmed to be an extrathyroidal parathyroid adenoma. Hypervascularity was suggested as a possible explanation for rare cases of pertechnetate avid parathyroid adenomas. And Tc-99m MIBI scintigraphy proved to be a successful imaging procedure for ectopic parathyroid tissue.

Key words: parathyroid adenoma, ectopic, Tc-99m pertechnetate