Diabetic patient with breastbone painful mass

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Case report
Male aged 57 years old, hypertensive and with T2D, under treatment with insulin, metformin, enalapril, acetylsalicylic acid and lovastatin. He attends the emergency service incidentally due to a serious hypoglycemia. The hypoglycemia is stated during the initial approach and the examiner describes an indurated and painful mass in the upper third part of the breastbone of 10 cm of transversal diameter and 7 cm of longitudinal diameter (figure 1). According to the relatives who came with him, the patient showed dyspnea of small efforts since some weeks before, as well as anterior thoracic pain that exacerbated during the deep inhalation and asthenia. The initial examinations evidenced the presence of anemia (hemoglobin of 10.1 g/dL), renal failure (plasmatic creatinine of 1.61 mg/dL, creatinine clearance of 73.4 mL/min, proteinuria of 9,650 mg/24 h), hyperkalemia (10.8 mg/dL), hypergammaglobulinemia (8.5 g/dL) and high globular sedimentation speed (90 mm/h). A 40% of anaplastic plasmatic cells could be observed in the bone marrow aspiration. The electrophoresis of plasmatic proteins showed the presence of a monoclonal peak in the gammaglobulines. The test of Bence-Jones for the proteins in urine was positive. An expansive process in the breastbone manubrium could be observed in the thorax computerized tomography, associated to multiple osteolytic lesions in the rib cage and the dorsal column.

Comment
The multiple myeloma is a malignant disease of the plasmatic cells. Usually, it appears as a disseminated bone disease, though sometimes it is associated to the presence of focal accumulations of anaplastic cells, known as plasmacytomes. It is a special aggressive disease. Only 33% of the patients survive after 5 years, no greater incidence of this disease can be observed in the diabetic patients, though it appears frequently in the obese subjects.

Declaration of potential conflict of interest
The authors state that there are no conflicts of interest as regards to the content of this article.

References