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PRIMARY BREAST TUBERCULOSIS MASTITIS MANIFESTED AS NON-HEALING ABSCESS

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Primary breast tuberculosis is a rare extrapulmonary tuberculosis mainly affecting young women of childbearing age in endemic countries. Its incidence is increasing in immunocompromized and HIV-infected people and with the emergence of drug-resistant strains of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*. There are no specific clinical signs suggestive of this disease, and it often presents as a hard mass or breast abscess. There is an overlap of features with other inflammatory, infectious, benign lesions, fat necrosis, and malignant neoplasms of the breast. The detection of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* remains the gold standard for diagnosis. Several diagnostic modalities are used, with varying degrees of lack of sensitivity and specificity, and with a range of false negatives. A quarter of cases were treated solely on the basis of clinical, imaging, or histological suspicion, without confirmation of the diagnosis. Therefore, we report the case of a young Vietnamese woman who presented with a non-healing breast abscess and was diagnosed with breast tuberculosis based on the patient's ethnicity, histological findings, lack of clinical response to conventional antibiotic therapy, and a good clinical response to antituberculosis treatment.

Keywords: Abscess. *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*. Case reports.