LYMPHOGRAPHIA

MAGNETIC RESONANCE IMAGES OF REACTIVE LYMPHADENITIS

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Fig. 1. Top left) T1 coronal image, medial aspect is on left of image. Top right) T1 axial image with fat suppression and contrast. Bottom left) Higher magnification of top left image depicting components of a lymph node. Bottom center) T2 axial image displaying the capsule of the node. Bottom right) Higher magnification of top right image highlighting the subcapsular sinusoid.
A 40 year old man presented with complaints of a tender mass approximately 5 cm medial and proximal to the left elbow. A mass was confirmed on physical examination and a soft tissue tumor was suspected. An MRI was performed (Fig. 1). Fat suppressed T-1 and T-2 sequences were obtained with and without gadolinium contrast enhancement. A 2 cm mass was identified that had detailed imaging characteristics strikingly mirroring the well-described detailed textbook diagram of a lymph node (Fig. 2 schematic). Surrounding subcutaneous edema was present. The musculature and osseous structures were normal. The surrounding edema rendered a malignant process unlikely. A diagnosis of cat scratch fever was suggested based on the clinical picture and presentation.

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