An exceedingly rare type of renal cyst: amoebic cyst

Case report
A 70-year-old male patient with a history of metastatic lung cancer and type-2 diabetes mellitus presented with a complaint of right upper quadrant abdominal pain. Ultrasound showed a septated renal cyst in the right kidney. Abdominal computed tomography confirmed the presence of a septated cyst measuring 98×83 mm in the right kidney with calcifications on the cyst borders (Figure 1). Indirect haemagglutination test for hydatid cyst was negative. The patient underwent percutaneous cyst treatment under ultrasound and fluoroscopic guidance. During the treatment 245 ml of cyst fluid was evacuated. Microbiologic evaluation of the fluid showed Entamoeba histolytica cyst and trophozoites (Figure 2). The patient denied any episode of amoebic dysentery in the past.

Discussion
Amoebiasis is a disease caused by the parasite E. histolytica. It can affect anyone, although it is more common in people who live in tropical areas with poor sanitary conditions. The main form of the disease is enteric infection called amoebic dysentery. The most common form of extra-intestinal amoebiasis is liver abscess. Involvement of the liver is plausible, because parasites are carried to the liver via portal vein. To our knowledge, only one previous case has been reported to date describing an amoebic renal cyst.

Learning point
Amoebic renal cyst is an exceedingly rare condition. Therefore, performing biopsy or drainage for every renal cyst may enable detection in areas where amoebiasis is relatively common.

Conflict of interest: None declared.

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Figure 1. Amoebic cyst in the upper pole of the right kidney on axial and coronal sections of the abdominal computed tomography. Note calcification in the septae of the cyst.
References
