



Glomus Tumor



Fig. 1

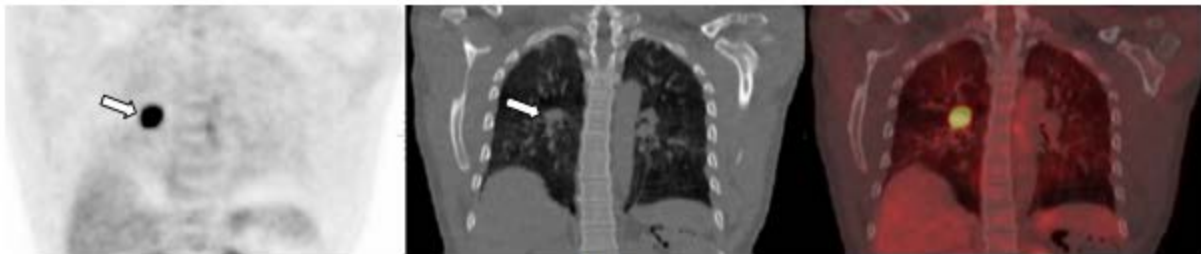


Fig. 2

This 37-year-old man was found to have a 2.2 cm right hilar mass on a CT scan performed because of an abnormal chest radiograph. A biopsy showed that the mass was likely a smooth muscle tumor or a **glomus** (perivascular) tumor. A PET-CT scan was performed and showed intense FDG uptake in the mass, with a maximum SUV of 23.1. The mass was resected and confirmed to be a glomus tumor, without histologic evidence of malignancy.

How did the PET-CT help?

Glomus tumors are uncommon, overwhelmingly benign tumors of the glomus body, an AV shunt related to temperature regulation in the skin. Most occur in the subungual region of the digits, but they may occur in the viscera. Fewer than 25 pulmonary glomus tumors have been reported in the literature, of which four were malignant. Two previously reported benign pulmonary glomus tumors were imaged with PET-CT scans: one was reported to have no FDG uptake and the other had “low to moderate” FDG uptake¹⁻³.

- (1) Interact Cardiovasc Thorac Surg. 2008 Dec;7(6):1191-3
- (2) Thorac Cardiovasc Surg. 2011 Mar 22. [Epub ahead of print]
- (3) Surg Clin North Am. 2009 Jun;89(3):727-38
- (4) Clin Orthop Relat Res. 2004 Sep;(426):69-73