

SARCOMATOUS DEGENERATION OF THROMBOSED ARTERIALIZED VENOUS GRAFT

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INTRODUCTION

Autologous vein is the most commonly used graft for lower limb bypass. Malignant transformation of the graft is as rare as it is difficult to diagnose and treat.

CASE REPORT

58-year-old male

- Arterial hypertension
- Smoker
- Diabetes mellitus type 2
- Dyslipidaemia

Follow-up in Vascular Surgery appointments for left lower limb peripheral arterial disease (PAD).

- 2000:** femoropopliteal bypass using reversed homolateral great saphenous vein due to stage IV PAD (Leriche-Fontaine classification).
- 2005:** occlusion of femoropopliteal bypass, medically treated with analgesics and anticoagulation.
- November 2008:** anastomotic false aneurysm of the common femoral artery treated with aneurysmectomy and Dacron patch angioplasty.
- January 2009:** drainage of large hematoma in the femoral surgical site.
- March 2009:** ➡ large tumefaction in the left groin, extending downwards to the internal aspect of the thigh, accompanied by left foot rest pain.

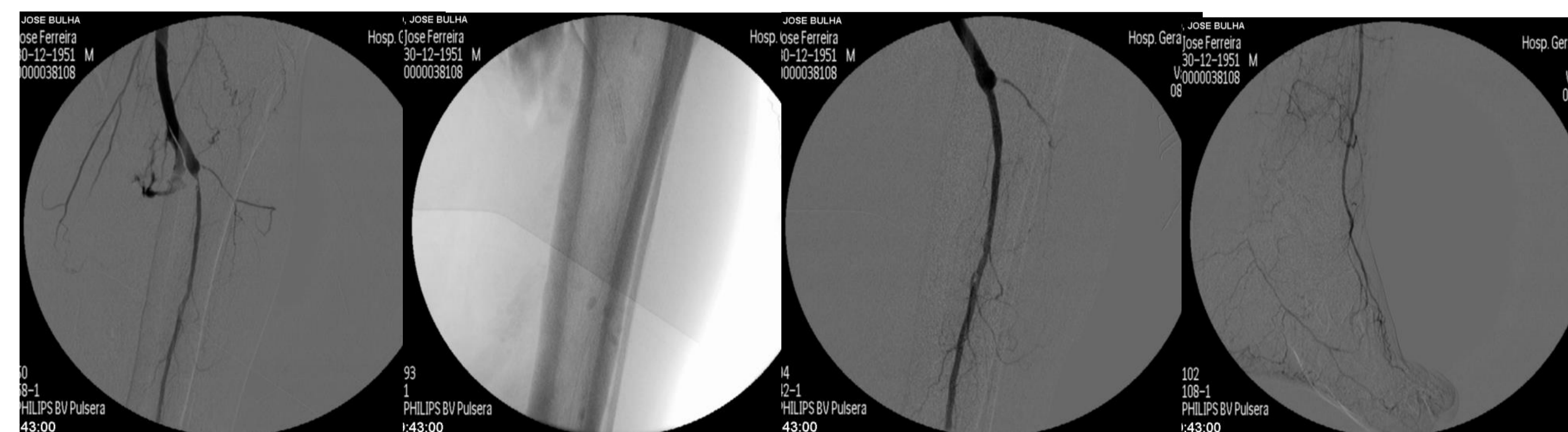


We proceeded to removal of a large multiloculated mass encasing the thrombosed venous graft.

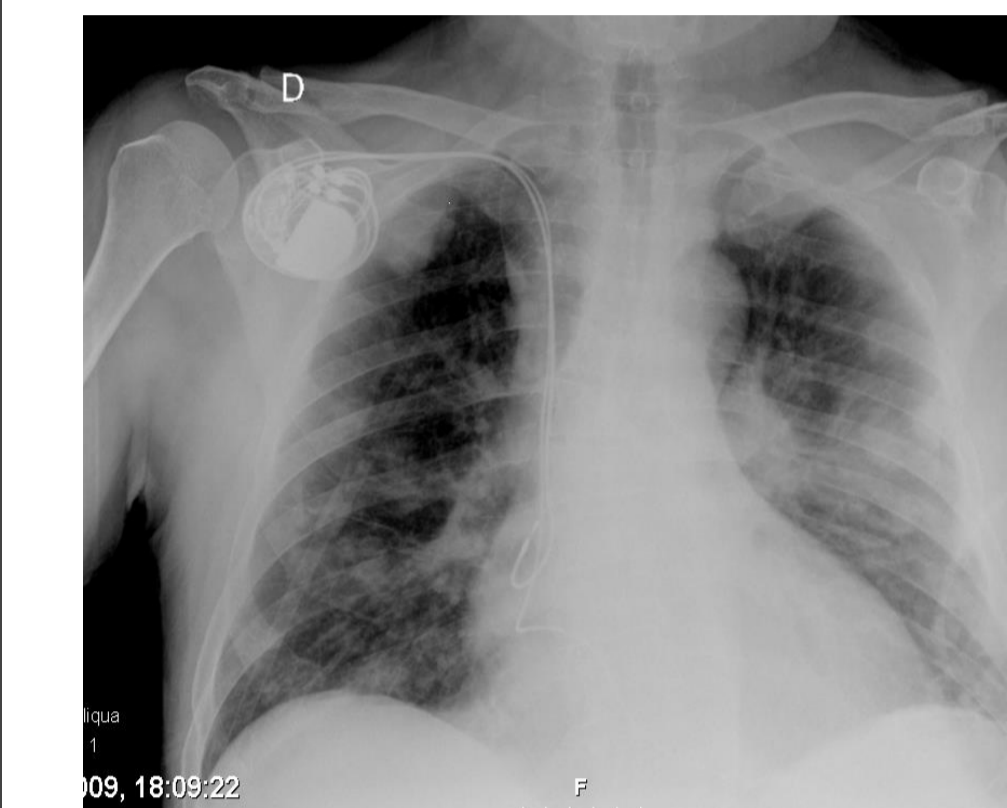


Severe foot ischemia, revascularization required:

- Femoroperoneal bypass using a 6mm PTFE conduct.
- POBA angioplasty of the peroneal artery.
- Peroneal artery stenting due to persistent stenosis

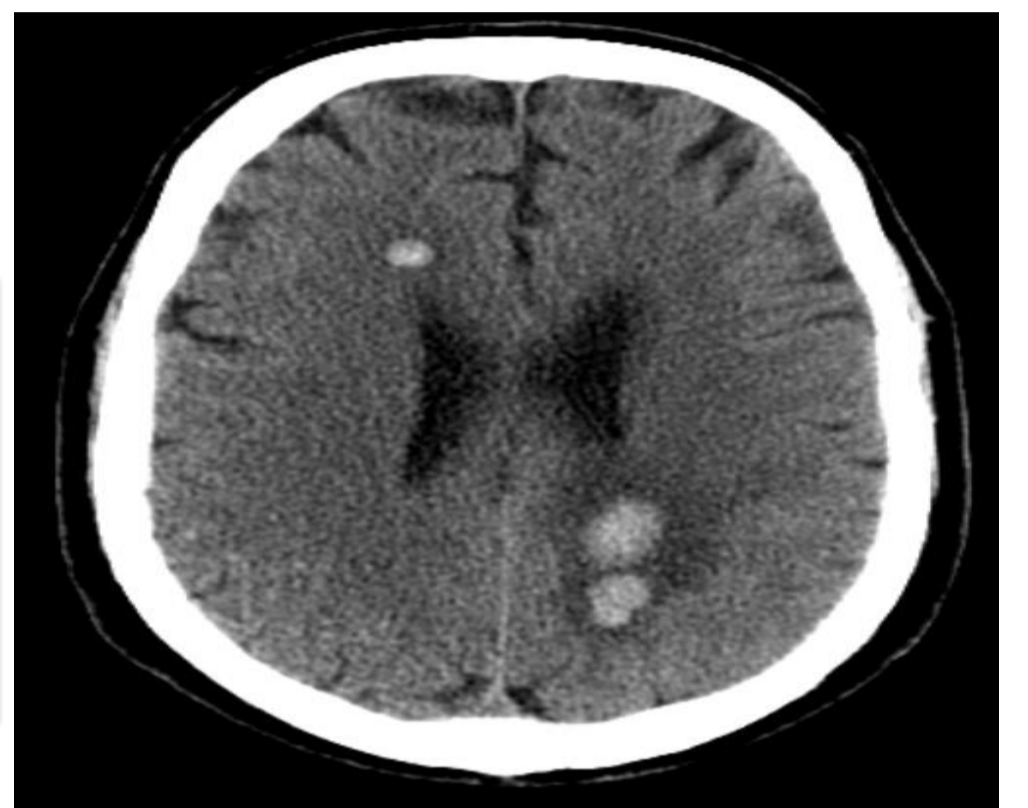


In the following days, the patient acutely develops **right hemiplegia and abundant haemoptysis.**



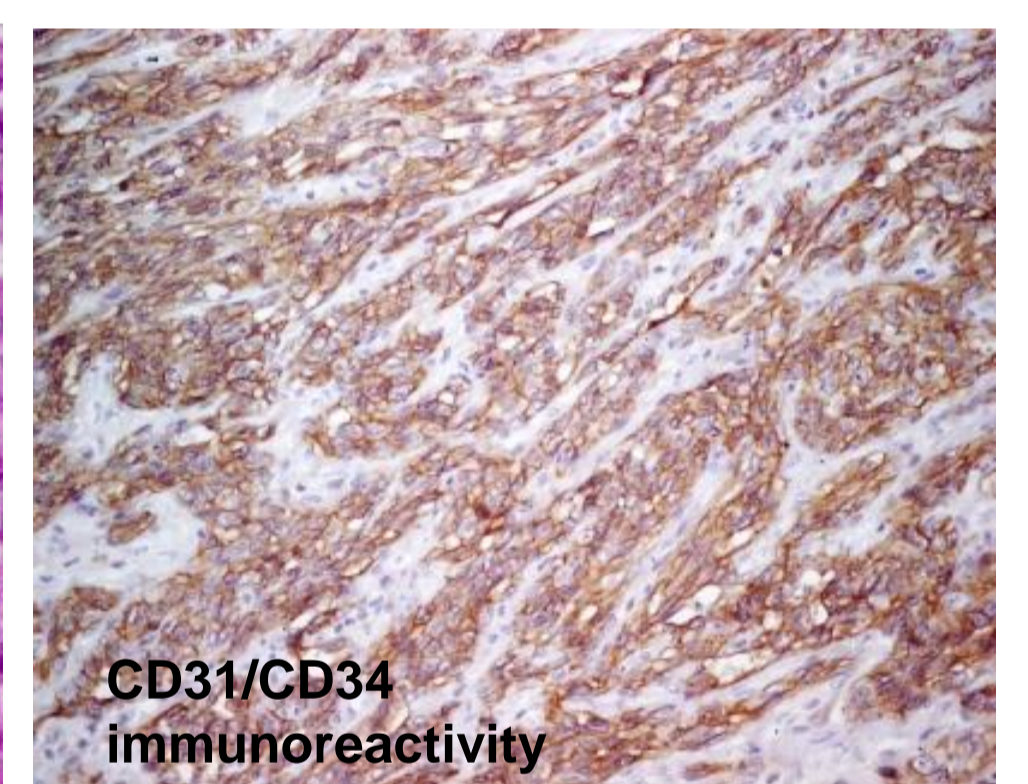
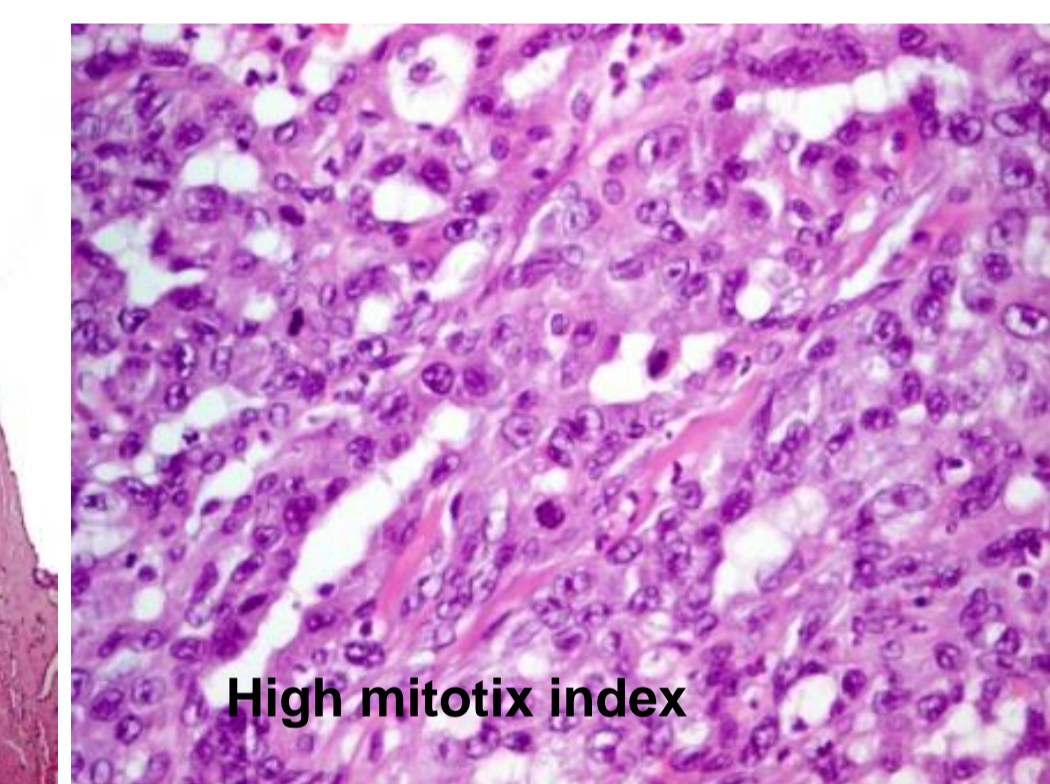
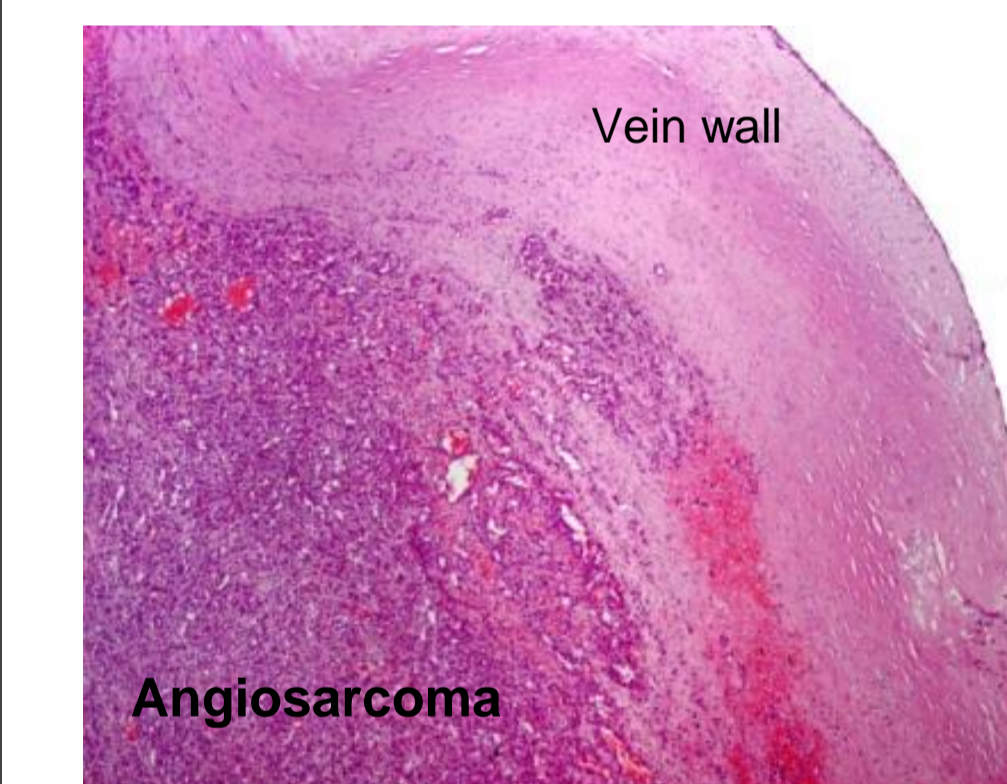
Chest radiograph showing multiple pulmonary nodules

Both findings suggestive of **diffuse metastatic disease.**



Head CT revealing numerous hyperdense nodules

The anatomopathological report of the mass exposed a **high grade angiosarcoma.**



6 months before: chest radiograph and lower limb CT showing no signs of neoplasia or any other related abnormality.

After a multidisciplinary decision, the patient was admitted to a Palliative Care Unit and deceased 2 months after surgery.

CONCLUSION

We present a unique case report of a highly malignant primary vascular tumour, emerging from a thrombosed arterIALIZED venous graft. The tumour developed swiftly in a period of 6 months and evolved into a diffuse metastatic disease.