A 3-year-old girl with history of abdominal neuroblastoma and lung metastasis underwent staging with 2-\[^{18}F\]-fluoro-2-deoxy-D-glucose (2-\[^{18}F\]-FDG) positron emission tomography-computed tomography (PET-CT) for assessment of treatment response. According to her last 2-\[^{18}F\]-FDG PET-CT, she had no recurrent or metastatic disease, following treatment. The only positive finding in the current PET-CT was focal FDG activity in the right lung, suspicious for metastatic neuroblastoma (Panels A and B). However, there was no anatomic correlate, attributed to small size of the metastatic nodule in the low-dose CT, considering her history of metastatic pulmonary nodules (Panel C). Subsequently, she received a dedicated chest CT which again did not show any pulmonary nodule to account for the radio-tracer activity. She underwent a repeat PET-CT which showed resolution of the FDG focus. The finding is attributed to FDG embolism artifact, postulated to result from clumping of the radiotracer with platelet aggregates during intravenous administration. It should be considered, especially if there is no corroborating anatomic correlate for focal pulmonary FDG activity and if the radiotracer is administered through a central venous catheter. Herein, we present images of a 3-year-old girl with history of abdominal neuroblastoma and lung metastasis, showing FDG embolism artifact, subsequently resolved in the repeat imaging. Our case reinforces the importance of knowing this artifact as misinterpretation can have a significant effect on patient management.

Keywords: FDG embolism; PET/CT; Pitfall.
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