

## HYDATID DISEASE OF THE LIVER – PRESENTATION OF FOUR CASES AND REVIEW OF LITERATURE

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**Introduction:** *Ecchinococcus granulosus* infects approximately 13/100.000 people in Greece. 65-70% of *ecchinococcal* cysts are found in the liver whereas multiple hepatic localization are in 25-30% of the cases. Our aim is to present four cases with *ecchinococcus granulosus*, and discuss their pre-operative presentation, the operating treatment and postoperative outcome

**Case Description:** We reviewed our files in a three year period (2014-2016) and we found four patients operated because of liver hydatid disease: one with ruptured abscess of the cyst, one with rupture in the bile ducts and two unruptured.

**Results:** A 32 year old woman with three large *echinococcal* cysts between 10-13cm in different sections of the liver and pressure findings. Three patients (two males 73 and 54 years old and one female 57 years old) with *echinococcal* cysts were found within

the liver. The first patient, age 73 had a ruptured *echinococcal* cyst of 11x13cm within the right perirenal space. The second patient 54 years old had obstructive jaundice. All patients received postoperative chemotherapy except one female patient due to hepatic malfunction. The two male patients underwent drainage of the cysts and had treatment with Albendazole. Drainage tubes were placed for 2-12 months.

**Conclusions:** The hydatid disease is a zoonosis eliminated in Greece in the last 50 years, but there are still some cases that produce a great amount of morbidity mainly because of postoperative complications and recurrences. It is generally unknown to young surgeons in developed countries and requires a great amount of patency for surgeons and patients for better outcomes.

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