

Introduction

- Myocarditis is defined as an inflammation of the heart muscles by the activation of multiple receptors causing cytotoxic effects.
- While viruses are the most common identifiable cause of acute myocarditis, extremely rare cases were caused by insects and snake bites.
- In our discussion, we will describe the first reported case of irreversible myocarditis caused by a Black Widow Spider.

Case Report

- 52 year old previously healthy gentleman presented to our Emergency Department (ED) for 1 week duration of shortness of breath, orthopnea, diaphoresis and palpitations.
- The patient was bit in Erbil, Iraq by a "small black spider" (fig 1) one month prior to presentation.



fig 1

- 2 days after the bite, he noticed increased redness and irritation around the bite (fig 2).
- He sought medical advice and the bite site was manipulated in an attempt to drain it causing it to develop a bullae after another 2 days (fig 3).
- The bullae was drained and debrided the same week (fig 4).

Delayed Myocarditis after a Black Spider Bite Chady El Tawil MD, EMT¹; Mirabelle Geha MD¹; Bassem Khishfe MD² ¹ American University of Beirut Medical Center ; ² Mt Sinai Hospital, Lebanon, USA

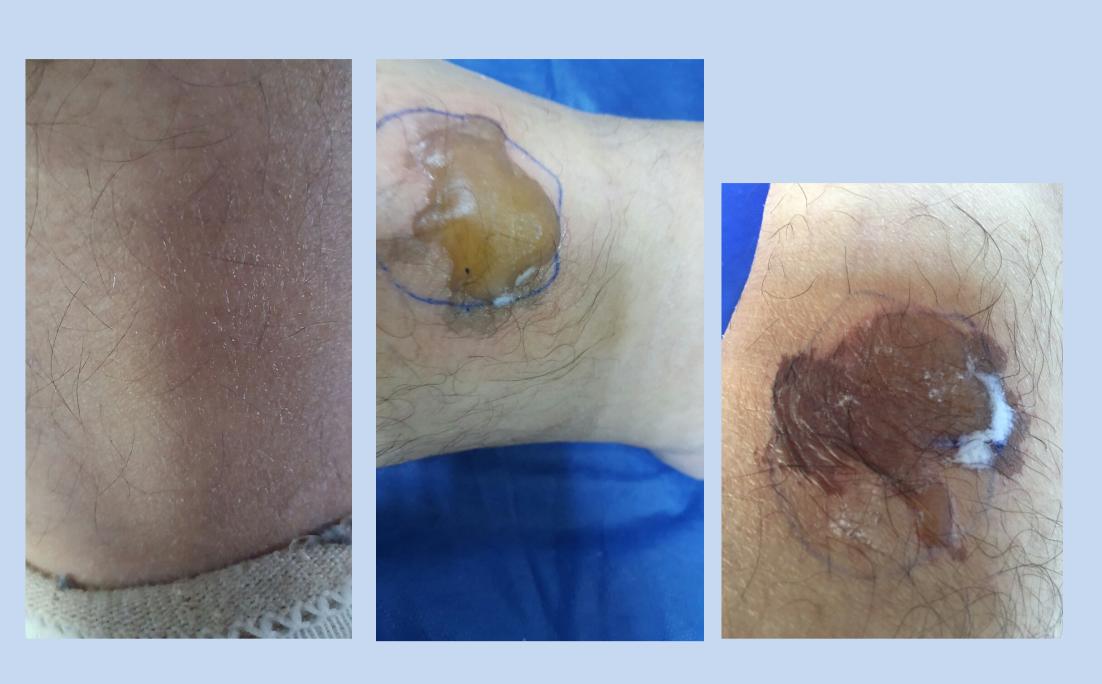
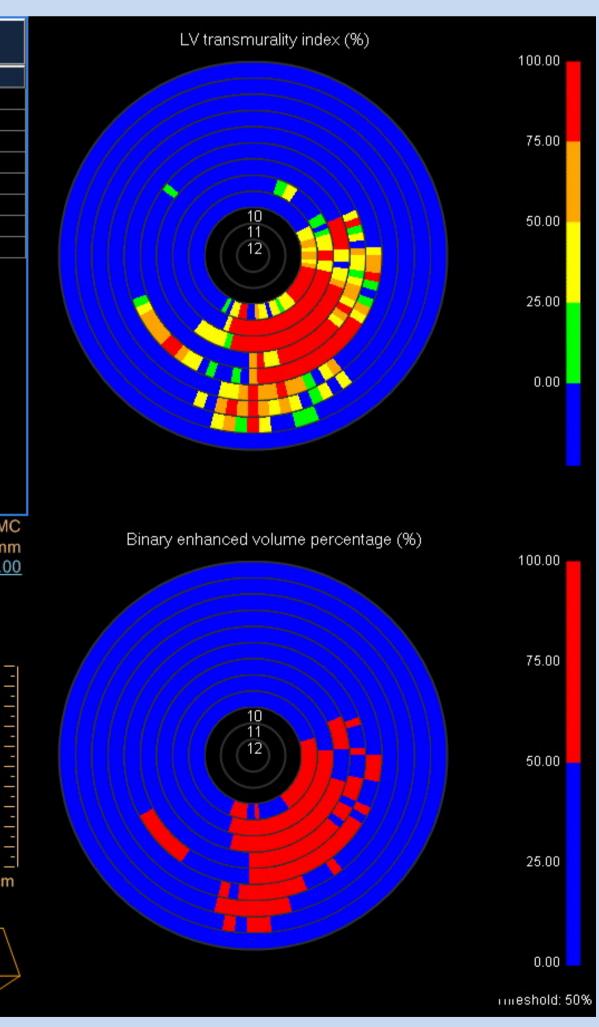


fig 3 fig 4

fig 2 The patient was admitted and had a cardiac MRI (fig 5) and echocardiography showing acute myocarditis and an ejection fraction of 45% that remained the same 4 months later.

	Results Summary
	Values
Mγocardial mass	110.00 gr
Enhanced mass	15.59 gr
Percentage enhanced volume	14 %
Mγocardial volume	104761 mm³
Enhanced volume	14849 mm³
Image type used	CR_IR
Threshold method	Manual
Method properties	Threshold Value: 2180
11 Nov, 2016 / 21:22:38.06	
Pos:80.0 mm	FOV 250.0 m
Td 670ms [1/1]	Zoom 1.0
Slice [4/12] 2001: VIAB_SA_STACK_PS ARH	

fig 5



Case Discussion

- muscle fasciculations.

Conclusion

Contact



• The Black Widow Spider (BWS) is found commonly all over the world, and is generally found in the Mediterranean basin.

• The most common symptoms of BWS bite include diaphoresis, local papule, abdominal pain and

• Myocarditis is extremely rare and it was always described as reversible.

• An accurate diagnosis of myocarditis is difficult. Even though an endomyocardial biopsy is reliable, one cannot justify doing it for all patients with a myocarditis on the differential.

• Cardiac magnetic resonance is the method of choice of diagnosing myocarditis.

• We described the first case of irreversible

myocarditis after a BWS bite

• BWS is common in the MENA region and myocarditis can be a rare complication.

• BWS bites have a large spectrum of manifestations, ranging from benign localized complications to systemic and even fatal outcomes.

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