

## Re: Abdominal lesions – help!

---

*Source:* <http://sci.tech–archive.net/Archive/sci.med/2008–09/msg00053.html>

---

- *From:* Mark & Steven Bornfeld <[bornfeldmung@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:bornfeldmung@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Thu, 11 Sep 2008 14:39:28 GMT
- 

sjbisluk@xxxxxxx wrote:

On Sep 11, 8:07 am, sjbis...@xxxxxxx wrote:

On Sep 11, 12:24 am, Mark & Steven Bornfeld

<[bornfeldm...@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:bornfeldm...@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)> wrote:

sjbis...@xxxxxxx wrote:

Hi all,  
Hoping someone on this group can possibly give me some help, as I'm worrying myself stupid.  
Just came back from an ultrasound on my neck/clavicle, which showed a slightly enlarged lymph node (around 8mm in length) which they said could stem from an infection.  
They checked other lymph nodes in my neck etc, and there were no signs of anything worrying.  
I then went back later to get the report, and the doctor had put on the report (for my dr) that the enlarged lymph node in my neck raises the possibilities of abdominal lesions(!!!), so now I'm in a real panic as this I am assuming is a tumour!  
Some history – I'm a 36 year old male, non smoker, eats lots of fruit/veg and exercises regularly. The past year or so my wife and I have gone through fertility treatment, and it's put a stress on our marriage. In turn, I have been drinking quite a bit (beer only) for

Re: Abdominal lesions – help!

the past couple of years. Also to note, my bloods also came back fine except for a (slight) increase in liver enzymes. We're now actually pregnant (naturally) but I think the stress has taken its toll as I find myself fatigued often. Now this I also know is a side effect of cancer too, which in turn makes me worry.. LOL  
I don't have any abdominal pain, or weight loss. I have dark circles under my eyes, but I haven't been sleeping much lately.  
I go back to see my doctor tomorrow with the results, but am petrified he's going to tell me I have pancreatic/liver cancer etc.  
Any advice that \*may\* just put me at ease?

You deserve an explanation of what they're looking for. If the node is inflammatory usually it will be tender. The nodes in the neck generally drain the face, mouth, skin of the head, sinuses etc. so I can't think how an enlarged lymph node of the neck (whether inflammatory or not) would have him thinking of "abdominal lesions" (which is itself not a very useful term). Don't know how much you're drinking, but that could be enough to account for your raised liver enzymes.  
I'm no expert, but if you're drinking and stressed, worried etc. it sounds more likely to me that your fatigue is related to your emotional state.  
FWIW, my mother died of pancreatic cancer. Not that it can't happen to a 36 year old, but generally happens to older folks. Also, the first specific symptoms in pancreatic ca (IIRC) are back pain (for cancer in the head of the pancreas) and jaundice for ca in the tail of the pancreas.  
You can't rule out pancreatitis, which is sometimes related to drinking. But you'd probably have pain. Do you actually have any abdominal symptoms that could be having your doc look in this direction?

Re: Abdominal lesions – help!

Steve

—  
Mark & Steven Bornfeld DDS <http://www.dentaltwins.com>  
Brooklyn, NY  
718-258-5001

Thank—you so much for your reply, I really appreciate it.  
Yes, my consumption of alcohol over the past couple of years has definitely increased,  
and I don't (until now) give myself alcohol free days. It's about 9 standard drinks a day (beer)  
which I know is excessive.

My plan now is to just quit altogether (cold turkey) – wondering if occasional headaches etc  
would be part of the side effects.

I've also read up a little on Milk Thistle, and how it is supposed to help the liver.

In terms of pancreatic cancer and back pain, I certainly don't have any back pain (apart from when I wake up in the mornings, but I wouldn't call it pain.. it's more like I want to stretch the muscles)  
and no jaundice – I do have itchy skin and dark circles under the eyes, but this may be related to lack of sleep. Last night was the first time in a while I've slept well.

Thanks once again! ;-)

Okay some more news/updates etc.....

Went back to my GP today, and he's told me to go and have a biopsy done.  
I went to the clinic, and the \*most\* embarrassing thing happened.. the Dr couldn't locate the node properly, as it either a) kept moving about slightly, and b) was too small, and also close to my lung. This happened mostly when I layed down on the table, it's like the little blighter vanished out of sight!

He was very reassuring and told me to keep an eye on it, and come back and see him in a month or so if it has gotten any bigger. He also said that in his career, a node of that size (8mm) was highly unlikely to be malignant for a number of reasons – firstly, the node itself was perfectly round with some fat in it, and not fibrous and fixed like other cancerous nodes. Also the chances of contracting stomach cancer was quite unlikely due to my age, and lifestyle

Re: Abdominal lesions – help!

(apart from the grog..which I'm giving up). Plus I've had no signs of blood in urine/vomiting/blood in stools/weight loss etc.

The Dr mentioned that some nodes can become swollen due to an infection, and some can even swell slightly (and be benign) if they have a small layer of fat in them (as mine did)

So at least I feel a little better (psychologically) than I did last night/this morning. It's actually nice to get a 2nd opinion. I think the stress wasn't helping though, so I bought a B-Complex vitamin (with A &C) which may help boost my immune system again and stop me from being tired.

Dr #1 said it's still okay to have the occasional light beer – it won't kill me :-)

Depends on how occasional. ;-)  
Thanks for the update.

Steve

--

Mark & Steven Bornfeld DDS  
<http://www.dentaltwins.com>  
Brooklyn, NY  
718-258-5001

.