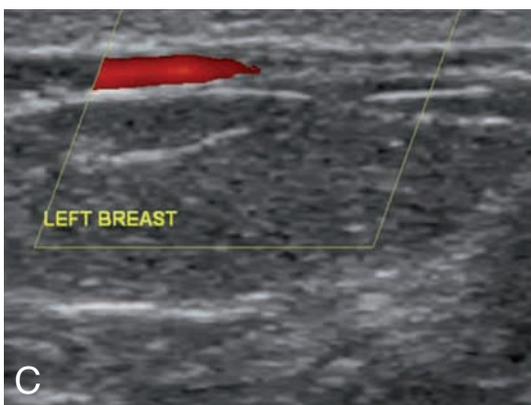
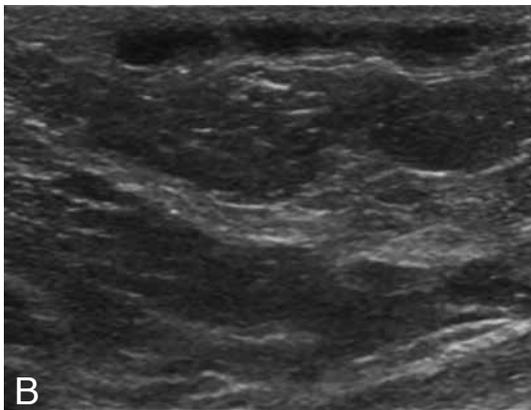
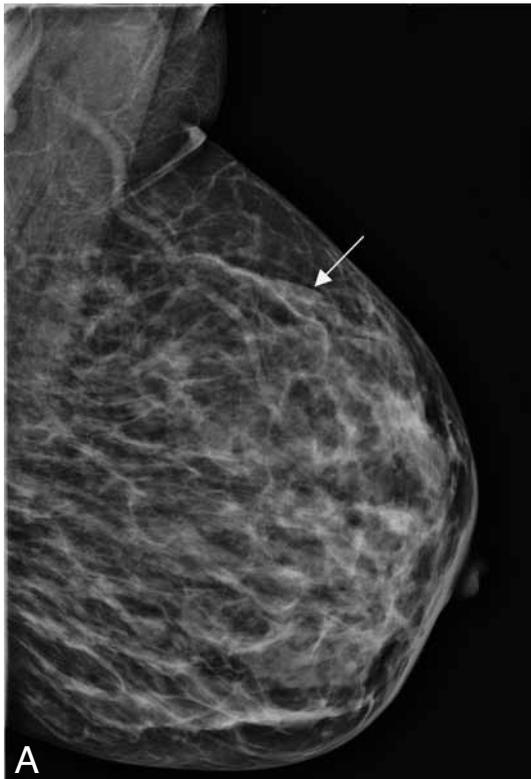


## IMAGES IN CLINICAL RADIOLOGY



### *Mondor's disease of the breast*

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A 34-year-old woman, who has a positive family history for breast cancer, presented with a palpable, painful cord associated with a skin discoloration on her left breast. Physical examination revealed palpable cord-like structure with localised tenderness in the left breast at twelve o'clock position. MLO mammography showed a superficial tubular density in the superior aspect of the left breast (arrow). Anterior to the tubular density, there was a minimal focal skin thickening (Fig. A). Ultrasonography also showed skin thickening and a superficial dilated tubular structure at the palpable site (Fig. B). On color Doppler examination, no flow was detected in the tubular structure. The diagnosis of Mondor's disease of the breast was made on the basis of clinical findings and radiologic imaging findings. She was treated symptomatically with antiinflammatory and analgesic drugs. The symptoms resolved after a 6-week follow up. On follow-up sonography, the decrease in calibration of the thrombosed vein and recanalisation on color Doppler is seen (Fig. C).

#### *Comment*

Mondor's disease of the breast is a benign condition characterised by superficial thrombophlebitis of the mammary region. Clinical manifestation of this disease includes a palpable cord or a mass in the breast, usually associated with pain and skin discoloration. The risk factors reported for the development of this condition are breast surgery, breast biopsy, inflammatory process, breast cancer and trauma. Mammography usually reveals the linear densities that represent the thrombosed vein. At ultrasonography, the thrombosed vein appears as a tubular structure that does not show any flow on color Doppler. Mondor's disease is a self limiting condition treated conservatively with antiinflammatory and analgesic drugs. Because of the reported association of breast cancer with Mondor's disease, mammography is strongly recommended. The radiologists should be aware of the radiological findings of this disease to reach the correct diagnosis and to exclude an associated breast cancer.

#### *Reference*

1. Shetty M.K., Watson A.B.: Mondor's disease of the breast: sonographic and mammographic findings. *AJR*, 2001, 177: 893-896.

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