Chest X-ray in a hypertensive patient with stage 2 diastolic dysfunction

A 46-year-old woman presented with exertional dyspnea and leg swelling for 2 months. Her past medical history includes familial hyperlipidemia and uncontrolled hypertension for 6 years. She was evaluated for these complaints in another center. There was an opacity with regular contours at right lung middle lobe on her chest X-ray (Fig. 1). Electrocardiography revealed normal sinus rhythm with no abnormal changes. Transthoracic echocardiography showed left ventricular ejection fraction of 61%, left ventricular hypertrophy, mild mitral regurgitation, stage II left ventricular diastolic dysfunction and ratio of transmitral to septal myocardial flow velocities during early filling (septal E/e’) equal to 10. Biochemical tests were within normal reference limits except brain natriuretic peptide (BNP) level of 215 pg/mL (N: 0-100 pg/mL). Therefore, thoracic computerized tomography (CT) was performed for differential diagnosis: There was a localized fluid collection in right major fissure with 20x22x32 mm diameters (Fig. 2), and reported as phantom tumor. Due to these findings, peroral diuretic treatment was initiated in that medical centre. After 2 weeks, control chest X-ray was performed (Fig. 3). So, the patient was admitted to our hospital with the same complaints. The physical examination was unremarkable. Her chest X-rays and thorax CT were evaluated again; no change in size of the mass was observed. Although its location is relevant for phantom tumor, there are no clinical symptoms and findings of heart failure. Fissural cyst hydatid was thought in differential diagnosis, but the test for echinococcus IHA was negative. Abdominal ultrasonography was performed and there was no cystic lesion in liver.

What is your diagnosis?
1. Diastolic dysfunction
2. Tumor
3. Hydatid cyst
4. Local pleural liquid or empyema

Answer: p. 455