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The BIMJ publishes articles ranging from original research papers, review articles, medical practice papers, special reports, audits, case reports, images of interest, education and technical/innovation papers, editorials, commentaries and letters to the Editor. Topics of interest include all subjects that relate to clinical practice and research in all branches of medicine, basic and clinical including topics related to allied health care fields. The BIMJ welcomes manuscripts from contributors, but usually solicits reviews articles and special reports. Proposals for review papers can be sent to the Managing Editor directly. Please refer to the contact information of the Editorial Office.

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Ethical considerations will be taken into account in the assessment of papers that have experimental investigations of human or animal subjects. Authors should state clearly in the Materials and Methods section of the manuscript that institutional review board has approved the project. Those investigators without such review boards should ensure that the principles outlined in the Declaration of Helsinki have been followed.

Manuscript categories

Original articles

These include controlled trials, interventional studies, studies of screening and diagnostic tests, outcome studies, cost-effectiveness analyses, and large-scale epidemiological studies. Manuscript should include the following; introduction, materials and methods, results and conclusion. The objective should be stated clearly in the introduction. The text should not exceed 2500 words and references not more than 30.

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These are, in general, invited papers, but unsolicited reviews, if of good quality, may be considered. Reviews are systematic critical assessments of

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This section usually consist of invited reports that have significant impact on healthcare practice and usually cover disease outbreaks, management guidelines or policy statement paper.

Audits

Audits of relevant topics generally follow the same format as original article and the text should not exceed 1,500 words and references not more than 20.

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Case reports should highlight interesting rare cases or provide good learning points. The text should not exceed 1000 words; the number of tables, figures, or both should not be more than two, and references should not be more than 15.

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This section includes papers (i.e. how to interpret ECG or chest radiography) with particular aim of broadening knowledge or serve as revision materials. Papers will usually be invited but well written paper on relevant topics may be accepted. The text should not exceed 1500 words and should include not more than 15 figures illustration and references should not be more than 15.

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Manuscripts submitted to the BIMJ should meet the following criteria: the content is original; the writing is clear; the study methods are appropriate; the data are valid; the conclusions are reasonable and supported by the data; the information is important; and the topic has general medical interest. Manuscripts will be accepted only if both their contents and style meet the standards required by the BIMJ.

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Jeyasakthy SANIASIAYA, Norhaslinda ABDUL GANI



Figure 1

An elderly 88-year-old female with underlying diabetes mellitus and hypertension presented with a three-month history of intermittent left-sided otalgia with otorrhagia. Additionally, no associated facial asymmetry, headache or constitutional symptoms were revealed. There was no associated nasal symptoms or neck swelling. On examination, reddish mass was noted to occupy entire external auditory canal (EAC) extending into the conchal part of left pinna (Figure 1) whilst otoscopic examination of right ear was unremarkable. Computed tomography of temporal bone revealed heterogenous ill-defined mass occupying cartilaginous part of left EAC, extending to the conchal and anti-helix of pinna with minimal erosion of the cartilaginous part of EAC.

What is the diagnosis?

Answer: refer to page [92](#)

Correspondence author: Jeyasakthy Saniasiaya, Otorhinolaryngologist & Head and Neck Surgeon, Department of Otorhinolaryngology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya, Jalan Universiti, 50603 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
Email: shakthy_18@yahoo.com
Phone num: +6012-6841223; Fax number: +6075564333

DISCLOSURE: There is no conflict of interest and consent has been obtained from patient for use of these images.

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