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Lymphadenitis in an 18-Month-Old Traveler to Mexico

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An 18-month old female infant presented with a right-sided neck mass, which had been noticed 1 week earlier by the child's mother. The parents denied any preceding trauma, and the child had given no indication of pain around the lesion. She had been eating and drinking normally, and her behavior and activity were normal. She had no fever, cough, or constitutional symptoms.

The child had been previously healthy, and her growth and development had been normal. The mother re-

ported that her pregnancy had been unremarkable and that a prenatal human immunodeficiency virus antibody test was negative. The infant was not taking any medications at presentation. She had no siblings, and lived in Maryland with her parents. She was born in the United States to Mexican-born parents who had moved from Mexico about 3 years before. There was no exposure to any ill contacts or animals before presentation. Six weeks before presentation, the patient's parents had taken her on a 2-week trip to Mexico to visit relatives. During that trip, she had been fed local foods and had had no known contact with individuals with tuberculosis or any other illnesses.

The patient was examined at an outside facility, where she was reported to be well-appearing and playful. Physical examination was remarkable only for a right

supraclavicular mass (measuring about 2 cm × 2 cm) that was nontender and immobile. There was minimal overlying erythema and warmth, but no drainage from the lesion. The remainder of the physical examination was normal. A chest radiograph was also normal. Tuberculin skin testing resulted in 11 mm of induration at 48 hours.

The leading diagnosis was considered to be tuberculosis caused by *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*. On further questioning, however, the child's parents revealed that during the recent trip to Mexico, one of the local foods the child had ingested was fresh soft cheese, prompting concern about disease caused by *M. bovis*. Further history and pathologic examination of the excised mass revealed the diagnosis.

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