Dear Editor,

Pyogenic liver abscess (PLA) is an uncommon disease with an annual incidence rate ranging from two to 45 cases per 100,000 hospital admissions worldwide. Gas-forming pyogenic liver abscess (GFPLA) is even rarer, which accounts for 7% to 24% of PLA. It is reported that GFPLA only accounted for less than 4% of PLA over an eight-year period in a local hospital of Brunei. Here we present a rare case of GFPLA due to *Klebsiella pneumoniae* (*K. pneumoniae*).

A 79-year-old female with poorly-controlled diabetes mellitus (DM) was admitted to our hospital with a three-day history of fever and progressive abdominal pain in the right upper quadrant. On physical examination, she was febrile and mild right upper quadrant tenderness was observed. Laboratory data showed an elevated white blood cell (WBC) count of 17.3×10^9/L with hyperglycemia and minor changes in liver enzymes.

Abdominal contrast-enhanced computed tomography (CT) scan revealed a huge abscess with gas formation in the right lobe of the liver and the abscess was measured as 14 cm in diameter (Fig. 1). The patient underwent CT-guided percutaneous catheter drainage and was given broad spectrum intravenous antibiotic (imipenem/cilastatin) and insulin. However, her condition deteriorated and was complicated by septic shock and multiple organ dysfunction syndrome (MODS). She subsequently underwent CT-guided percutaneous catheter drainage and was given broad spectrum intravenous antibiotic (imipenem/cilastatin) and insulin. But this is insufficient in a minority of patients, such as the patient described above. Statistics showed that the overall mortality rate in GFPLA patients was higher than that in non-GFPLA patients. Remarkably, the mortality of GFPLA is around 27.7% to 37.1% in spite of aggressive treatment. Even so, early diagnosis and prompt treatment can reduce subsequent mortality.

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