The patient is a 90-year-old woman with a history of hypertension, AFib and sternotomy for a valve substitution in 2008. She reported a subxiphoid mass ever since the sternotomy, which it was decided not to treat because of the age of the patient. She consulted due to vomiting and epigastric pain, and upon examination a subxiphoid incisional hernia was detected (Fig. 1), which was irreducible and contained what appeared to be the liver. Lab work showed GPT 234 U/L and GOT 141 U/L. Abdominal CT (Fig. 2) showed partial herniation of the left liver lobe with compromised vascular function. The patient underwent emergency surgery, which entailed laparotomy, reduction of the herniated liver and repair of the defect with intraperitoneal dual-layer mesh. The patient was discharged on the 4th day post-op.

Diagnosis: hepatic herniation after sternotomy.

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