

# Thromboangiitis Obliterans Presenting With Atypical Manifestation As Persistent Tenosynovitis Of The Wrist

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**Introduction:** Thromboangiitis obliterans (TAO), also known as Buerger's disease, is a rare inflammatory disease affecting approximately 0.02% of the population (1). Classically, it presents in young male smokers with distal extremity ischemia, ischemic digital ulcers, or digit gangrene (1).

**Case Presentation:** A 49-year-old man with a past medical history positive for osteoarthritis, carpal tunnel, and a significant smoking history presented for pain and swelling of the right wrist and thumb. Along with TAO, sarcoidosis and rheumatoid arthritis were suspected due to elevated ACE and rheumatoid factor. His symptoms, however, were unresponsive to steroids. After excluding other inflammatory or autoimmune joint pain causes, a diagnosis of Buerger's disease was made from MRI which showed thrombophlebitis of the radial artery.

**Conclusion:** This case underscores the need for clinicians to consider TAO in the differential diagnosis of vascular inflammation, especially in patients with a history of smoking, even in the absence of classic symptoms. TAO often presents with atypical manifestations, including thrombophlebitis and joint pain, which can complicate the diagnostic process. The rarity of TAO and its overlap with other inflammatory conditions make it crucial for healthcare providers to maintain a high index of suspicion.

**Keywords:** Buerger's, Thromboangitis Obliterans, Tenosynovitis, Smoking, Vasculitis

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