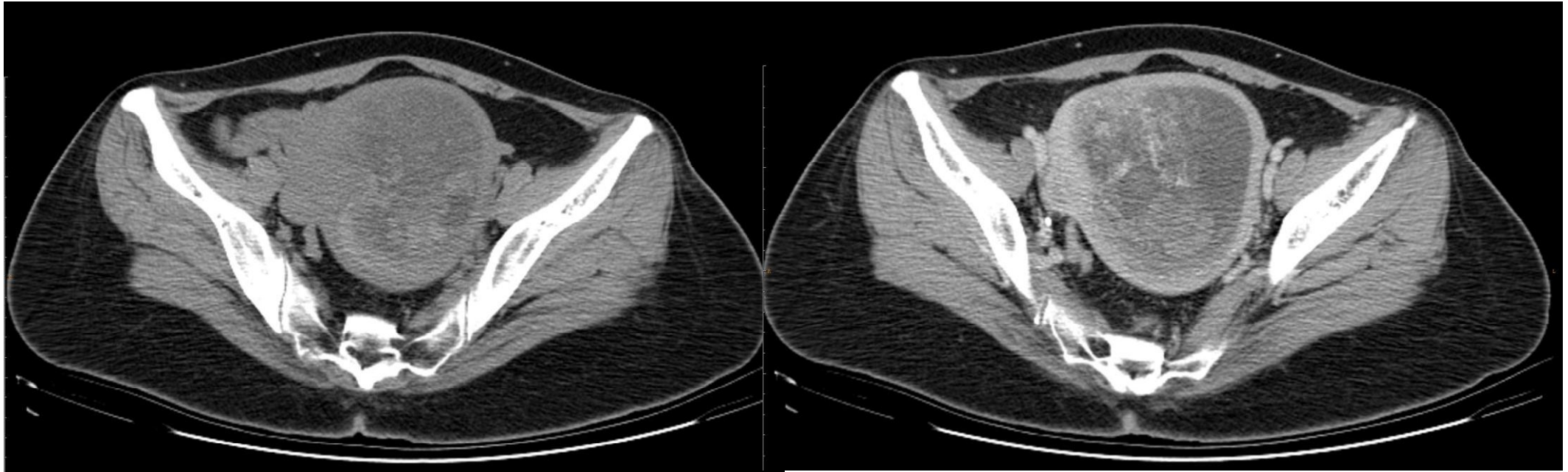


Complete hydatidiform mole



A CHM is the commonest type of gestational trophoblastic disease. Complete moles are characterised by the **absence of a fetus**. Most of CHM is 46XX. All the chromosomes are derived from the sperm, suggesting fertilization of a single egg that has lost its chromosomes.

Serum beta HCG levels are markedly elevated. The multiple cystic structures classically give a "**snow storm**" or "**bunch of grapes**" type appearance although this may not be present very early in gestation.

Bilateral theca lutein cysts may also be seen.