

## AN UNUSUAL CASE OF VAGINAL INJURY

by

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### *Introduction*

Vaginal injuries generally occur due to direct trauma by a sharp object or during coitus. Crush injury causing vaginal rupture is rather unusual. In motor vehicle accident, such injuries are rarer still. The present case is peculiar in this way, that detachment of the vagina resulted from a bus accident.

### **Case Report:**

Pappi, an 11 year old girl was knocked down by a bus and was brought to hospital as an emergency case on 2 Aug. 71 with multiple injuries, shock and bleeding per vagina, which was quite alarming. Besides extensive laceration of the anterior and lateral abdominal wall, following injuries to the genitalia were revealed on examination under G.A.

*External Genitalia:* Normal. No bruise. No laceration.

*Clitoris:* Normal.

*Urethra:* Completely detached anteriorly and was lying loose in the vagina.

*Hymen:* Lacerated.

*Vagina:* Completely separated from all sides, like a sleeve. The anterior vaginal wall had been torn anteriorly and had taken the urethra alongwith it. There were lateral tears on the vaginal sleeve at 9 o'clock and 2 o'clock positions extending towards the vault and anteriorly. Bleeding was profuse. An X-ray revealed fracture pelvis.

The urethra was caught and lifted. A

thin catheter passed and clear urine, was drained indicating no injury to the bladder.

### *Operation*

The urethra was first anchored to its original position with the vulva by fine catgut sutures, keeping the catheter in position. Next, the vaginal cuff was sutured around the vulva by interrupted sutures with 0-0 chromic catgut. After thus restoring the structure to its normal anatomy as far as possible, the vaginal canal was explored and lateral tears repaired, starting from down and working up towards the vault. Complete haemostasis was ensured. Vagina was packed. Catheter was stitched in position. The bladder was draining well. The pack was removed after 24 hours. Exploratory laparotomy showed normal uterus and adnexae.

Patient made an uneventful recovery. The catheter was removed on 6th post-operative day. Sphincter control was good.

### *Comments*

Injuries to female genitalia are generally by sharp objects, either by assault or by fall over them. Sexual injuries are common due to rape. Pregnant uterus may get injured like a full bladder by blunt injury.

This case is of interest due to (1) mode of injury, (2) nature of injury to external genitalia. This was a crush injury by

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the wheel of a bus, which caused a sudden increase in the intra abdominal pressure. In spite of this the bladder and uterus escaped any injury but resulting in detachment of vagina and urethra. The mechanism of the injury is not very clearly understood. What is possible is that due to sudden force the vaginal tube and uterus were pushed high up in the abdominal cavity causing tension to the vaginal introitus all round and tearing it away from the orifice.

No such case of vehicular injury could be found in available literature.

*Summary*

A case of unusual vaginal injury following a vehicular accident has been reported.

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