

# FORMATION OF VAGINAL STONE AROUND THREAD OF COPPER-T

## (A Case Report)

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Formation of stone in the vaginal canal is a rare condition but it can occur under two conditions: (a) In an accessory ureter or in a diverticulum of urethra; (b) around a foreign body such as a suture material, cotton wool, swab, etc. (Jeffcoate, 1962). In fact, a urinary calculus may be formed in the vagina whenever there is stasis of urine in vaginal passage as in cases of long standing vesicovaginal fistula.

A case of vaginal calculus which formed around the thread of a Copper-T intra uterine contraceptive device, because of its great rarity, is reported.

### CASE REPORT

Mrs. K., aged 32 years reported at the Post Partum Clinic of University Hospital of Banaras Hindu University on January 12th, 1978 for check-up and change of intra uterine device which was inserted 3 years previously.

**Obstetrical History:** Married for 11 years, had 2 full term normal deliveries, the last delivery was  $7\frac{1}{2}$  years ago.

**Menstrual History:** Her menstrual cycles were regular 4-5/26-30 days, L.M.P. 4th January, 1978.

**Past History:** Her past history was not relevant but she gave history of occasional stress incontinence.

**Pelvic Examination:** The pelvic examination revealed a smooth, flat oval stone of the size of

3 cm x 2 cm hanging free inside the vaginal canal from the lower end of the Copper-T device (Fig. 1). There was slight cystocele but no other pelvic abnormality was detected. Stress incontinence could be demonstrated easily. The Copper T was removed and she was advised to start oral Pills for contraception.

### Discussion

In the present case atleast three factors, i.e. foreign body (thread of I.U.C.D.), urine stasis (due to stress incontinence) and superadded infection in the vagina might have been responsible for the formation of stone in the genital tract. At the top of it addition of protein and other organic constituents of the menstrual blood over the foci of calcification may have some role to play. But this case poses two questions, (a) why such stones are rare although use of intrauterine contraceptive device and stress incontinence is common, (b) Whether such stone in the vagina may form independent of stress incontinence and presence of a foreign body like copper-T. Vaginal stone in cases of stress incontinence is unknown. The author feels that the concentration of precipitable constituents and reaction of urine occasionally collecting inside vagina may have been important factor in stone formation around the thread of copper-T which formed the nucleus of the stone in this case.

### Summary

A rare case of vaginal calculus resulting from stress incontinence in associa-

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tion with Copper-T intra-uterine contraceptive device is reported.

2. Sharma, D.: Williams operation for vaginal atresia. Personal communication, April 6th, 1978.

References

1. Jeffcoate, T. N. A.: Principles of Gynaecology, Second ed., London, 1962, Butterworth, 160.

3. Willis, R. A.: The Principles of Pathology, 1st ed., London, 1950, Butterworth, 309.

See Fig. on Art Paper IX

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A rare case of vaginal atresia ...

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