

A RARE CASE OF FOREIGN BODY IN THE ABDOMEN

(A Case Report)

by

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25 years old female came with the complaints of pain in the abdomen of 2 days' duration and foul smelling brownish discharge per vagina.

She gave the H/O 3 months amenorrhoea. Termination of pregnancy was attempted by a private practitioner in a village following which she developed pain in the abdomen and she was referred to us by the doctor with a suspicion of perforation of uterus.

General Examination

Abdomen was found slightly distended. On palpation, abdomen was soft, not warm, and tenderness present all over. No mass made out and no fluid thrill was felt. No free fluid present in the abdomen. On auscultation normal bowel sound heard.

Cervix Uterus about 8-10 weeks size.
Fornices slightly tender.

Routine urine and blood examinations were normal. X-Ray of Pelvis revealed an elongated foreign body well above the level of the uterus (Fig. 1).

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Treatment

In view of the X-ray finding a laparotomy was done. Under G.A. abdomen opened by an R.P.M. incision. A metal Hegar's dilator 8" in length was found lying free in the peritoneal cavity. The dilator was removed. Uterus was about 8 weeks size. There was a raw area on the posterior aspect of the uterus in the lower part. Tubes and ovaries normal. Intestines and other viscera were explored and found to be normal. Abdomen closed in layers after complete haemostasis. Patient was treated with antibiotics. Sutures removed on the 10th day. Post-operative period was uneventful.

Comments

This case is presented because of its rarity. A metal dilator about 8" was found lying free in the peritoneal cavity for more than 2 days. (Fig. 2). The dilator might have pierced the posterior wall of the uterus during dilatation and entered the peritoneal cavity. It was odd that there was no injury to any of the abdominal viscera. Patient recovered without any post-operative complications.

See Figs. on Art Paper VIII