Leiomyoma with massive cystic degeneration

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A 30 year old Indian woman, para - 2, attended the gynaecological outpatient department of AIIMS in November 1996. She complained of menorrhagia with a slowly growing mass in the lower abdomen for last 1 year and occasional pain in abdomen for last 6 months. On abdominal examination, a firm to cystic midline mass of about 30 weeks pregnant uterus size was palpable in the lower abdomen. On bimanual pelvic examination, the cervix was directed posteriorly and the uterus was not made out separate from the mass. Movements of the cervix were not transmitted to the mass and vice versa. Thus a clinical diagnosis of a large ovarian cyst was made.

On ultrasound examination, uterus with endometrial lining was seen posterierly and a cystic mass with multiple septae was seen anteriorly which coroborated the diagnosis of ovarian cyst. Laparotomy revealed a 18 x 16 x 14 cms thin walled cystic mass attached to the fundus of the uterus. Three litres of clear serous fluid was aspirated from the mass. Subsequently the mass was confirmed to be a subserous fibroid with massive cystic degeneration and myomectomy was done and almost normal-sized uterus was reconstructed. The patient was given two units of blood transfusion and her recovery was uneventful. Histopathology confirmed the diagnosis of a degenerated leiomyoma.

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THE JOURNAL OF OBSTETRICS AND GYNAECOLOGY OF INDIA