Multiple Hydatid Cysts in Pregnancy (Primigravida) - A Case Report

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Case report

A rare and interesting case of a full term pregnancy with multiple hydatid cysts is being reported.

A 20 year old patient presented with full term pregnancy and labor pains. She also had a history of intestinal obstruction one year back.

On admission, the patient was normal on general examination and her vital signs were stable. But, since multiple distended bowel loops were present in the upper abdomen, the uterine size could not be exactly ascertained. On per-vaginum, examination, multiple cysts (2-3) were present in posterior vaginal wall, the cervix was partially effaced and the membranes were absent.



Fig. 1: Photograph of the pelvic sonogram showing a cystic mass with spoke wheel appearance and a gestational sac.

The ultrasound abdomen showed multiple hydatid cysts throughout the abdomen. A normal foetus was seen.

An emergency LSCS was done and a 2.6kg, healthy, alive male child with APGAR score of 9 was delivered. Multiple cystic swellings were present throughout the abdomen arising both from the mesentry and omentum. The abdominal cysts were surgically resected.

The gross examination revealed three multilocular cysts, white in colour and measuring 7cm, 5cm, 4.5cm in diameter. The cysts were filled with opalescent fluid which in one case contained hydatid sand.



Fig. 2: Photomicrograph of hydatid cyst showing a brood capsule with scolices (left) and cyst wall with multiple laminations (right)

The histological examination revealed a cyst wall having an outer layer consisting of delicate, innumerable laminations and an inner germinal layer. The lumen of the cysts contained brood capsules having scolices. The host tissue response to the parasite was in the form of inflammatory reaction consisting of a zone of fibroblasts, giant cells, mononuclear and eosinophilic cells.

The patient was followed up and doing well 6 months post-operatively.