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Retained Pack After Hysterectomy

Ashish V. Gokhale, LN. Chauhan

Dept. of Obst. and Gynae, Medical College, Bhavnagar- 364001, Gujarat

Mrs. K.D.M. aged 30 years presented with
complaints of thick continuous non-foul smelling vaginal discharge following abdominal hysterectomy for DUB three months back at municipal medical college and teaching hospital.

History revealed that following hysterectomy she developed excessive vaginal discharge. At follow up visit after two weeks of operation, patient was admitted for investigation and treatment for five days at parent hospital. Even after treatment she had no relief.

On examination excessive vaginal discharge was present, which was thick, curdy, homogenous, and non-foul smelling. PV examination revealed that vault admitted tip of one finger at the left angle. No tenderness or no palpable mass except some induration was present. We advised local antifungal and systemic metronidazole 400 mg. T.I.D. for 7 days. The patient was not relieved of

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the symptoms, so it was decided to examine the patient under anaesthesia. Under anaesthesia vault was found to be open at left angle, frank purulent discharge came out. On cleaning and further exploration a gauze piece like material was seen at vault. The gauze piece was caught with allis forceps and was pulled out slowly without any difficulty. It was like a vaginal pack (5 x 60cms). The vault was cleaned with sp.vlon and normal saline for few days, and the patient was kept in ward in head up position. Adequate coverage of antibiotics was given. Patient was discharged after 5 days.

Conclusion

If there is no relief from symptoms and signs after investigations and treatment following major surgery, it is worth exploring and examining the patient under anaesthesia to look for foreign body.