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INGESTED FOREIGN BODY IN GUT ON COMPUTED TOMOGRAPHY

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INTRODUCTION

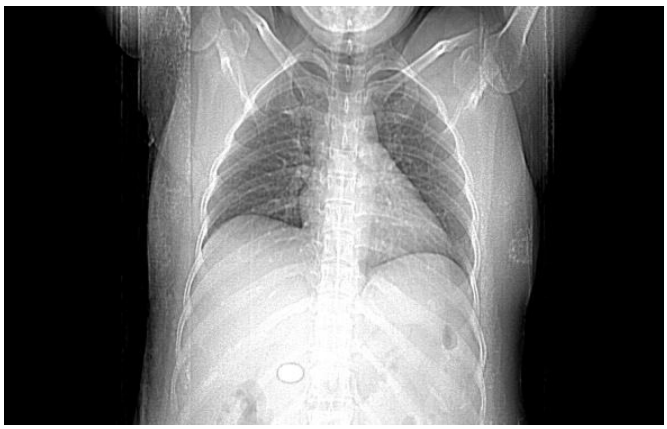
Foreign bodies are uncommon. They may be ingested, inserted into a body cavity, or deposited into the body by a traumatic or iatrogenic injury. All patients should be thoroughly screened for foreign bodies before undergoing a magnetic resonance imaging study.

RELEVANT HISTORY

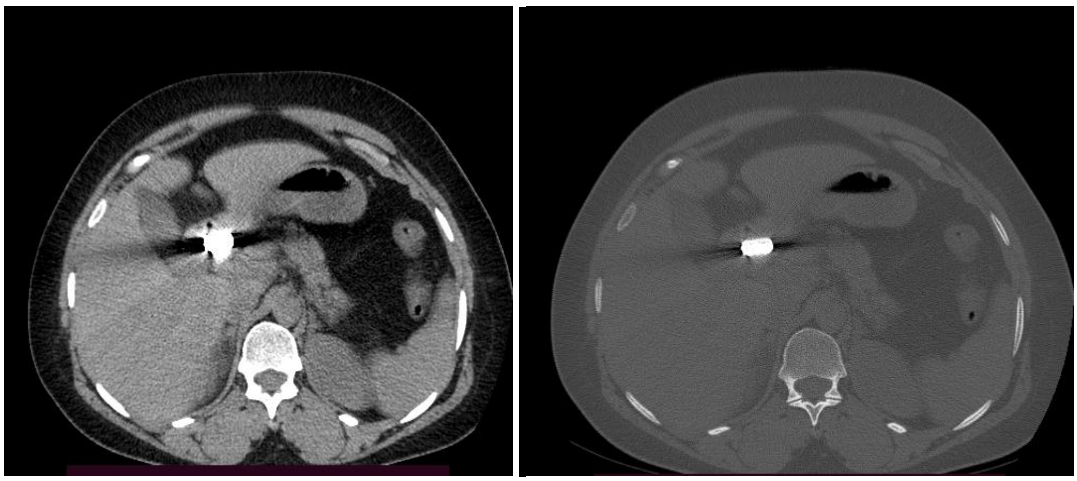
We present a case of 42 years old female who presented with complaints of lower backache. No history of pain abdomen or features of bowel obstruction was present. MR Lumbarsacral spine was advised by physician. Magnetic susceptible artifacts were observed, so plain CT was done to rule out any foreign body.

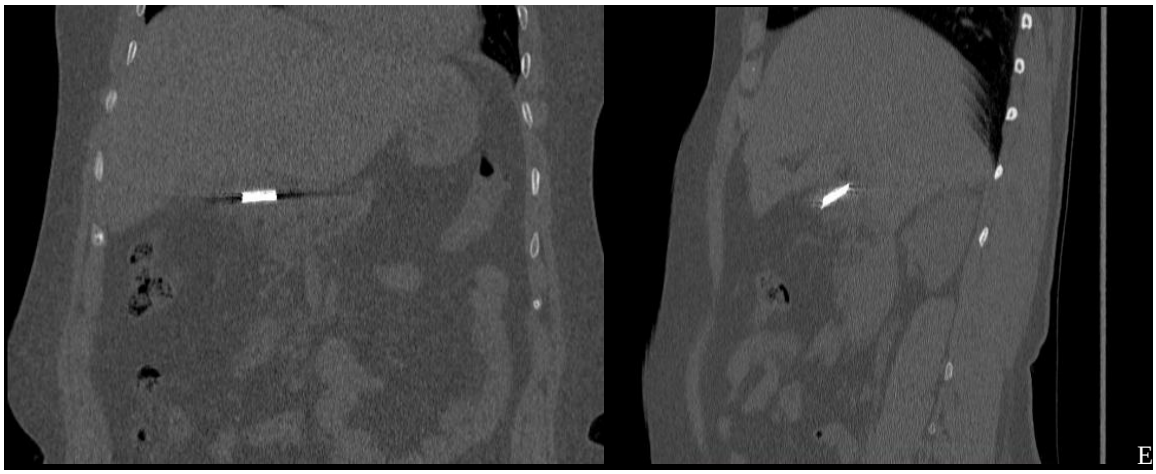
IMAGING FINDING

Scout image shows evidence of a well defined round hyperdense foreign body in abdomen on right side lateral to lower thoracic vertebrae.



NCCT: Abdominal and bone window axial, coronal and sagittal images shows a well defined metallic density coin shaped foreign body in the D1 segment of duodenum. No evidence of proximal dilatation of gut loops seen.





RESULT

We were accurately able to diagnose the cause of artifact on MRI. It was ingested coin, however patient did not have any abdominal complaints and no evidence of dilated gut loops were seen on CT.

DISCUSSION

Children and mentally sick person are more prone to foreign body ingestion. Most foreign objects traverse the gastrointestinal tract without problem and may be overlooked. They can even simulate the appearance of a medical device. USG, MRI, CT, Plain Xray are modalities to localize these. The scout image obtained for CT and MR imaging studies should be examined carefully for unexpected foreign bodies and medical apparatus .The duodenal loop, duodenojejunal junction, appendix, and ileocecal valve region seem to be more predisposed to impaction of foreign bodies. These should not be overlooked when studies like MR are to be done. Proper modalities should be used to diagnose these as these can cause injuries, bowel erosions, obstruction and fistula formation.

CONCUSION

All patients should be properly screened before undergoing an MR imaging study. CT is an important imaging modality to diagnose ingested foreign body.

REFERENCE

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