

INTERESTING CASE OF GOSSYPIBOMA**Dr. Saroj Thakur* and Dr. Malvika Shitak**

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KEYWORDS: Retained foreign body (RFB); Gossypiboma; Intestinal obstruction.**INTRODUCTION**

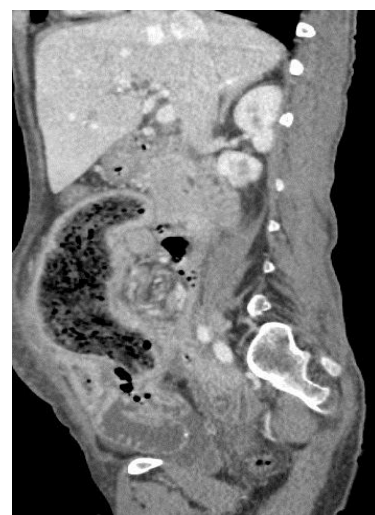
Gossypiboma is mass lesion due to retained surgical sponge surrounded by foreign body reaction. The term "gossypiboma" is derived from the Latin word gossypium, meaning cotton. It is an infrequent surgical complication and diagnosis is often delayed due to protean appearance. Retained foreign body should be suspected in any post-operative patient presenting with pain, infection or palpable abdominal mass. Initial response of body is an exudative inflammatory response with formation of abscess and later aseptic fibrotic reaction is seen surrounding the foreign body. Surgical sponge can be seen in omentum or intestine leading to obstruction or fistula formation.

CASE REPORT

We report case of a 35 year old female patient with history of abdominal pain and vomiting. Patient had undergone hysterectomy 5 months back. On clinical examination, there was abdominal distension with reduced bowel sounds suggestive of intestinal obstruction.



Xray abdomen showed distended bowel loops with mottled opacity in right lumbar region.



On contrast enhanced computed tomography (CECT) abdomen, dilated small gut loops with focal thickening of bowel wall were seen. Distal small bowel showed

presence of an irregular intraluminal high density content giving mottled appearance suggestive of Gossypiboma. Patient was taken for exploratory laparotomy and non-absorbable cotton mix surgical material was retrieved.



DISCUSSION

Postoperative intraperitoneal foreign body is an infrequent artificial complication of surgery. Patient usually presents with abdominal pain and a palpable mass or less commonly with intestinal obstruction. The preferred diagnostic modality for retained foreign body is computed tomography (CT). The CT appearance RFB varies with time. In early post-operative period there is more inflammatory response with signs and symptoms of acute abdomen. Imaging shows gas entrapped by cotton fiber of surgical sponge giving mottled appearance. In late post-operative period, most of the gas is absorbed and may be accompanied by calcification.

In this case CT showed a heterogenous intraluminal high density mass with apparent air bubbles suggesting gossypiboma. It was retained in distal ileum with focal thickening of bowel wall and there was proximal dilatation of gut loops. Other features of RFB include whorl like appearance with cystic areas and infolded densities. Sometimes radio-opaque markers are tagged to surgical sponges and can be seen as high density material on CT.

A possible late complication of RFB is perforation of bowel wall with formation of fistula and adherence of bowel loops.

The usual treatment of RFB is surgical removal which can be done with endoscopic or laparoscopic approach.

REFERENCE

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