Introduction

The primary omental torsion is a most uncommon cause of abdominal pain in childhood. It was first described by Eitel and is rarely suspected at first diagnosis before the surgery. In most extensive revisions, only 15% of cases occur in the pediatric age and also occurs in 0.1% of all laparotomy performed in diagnosing appendicitis. Clinically mimics the symptoms of appendicitis, with intense pain in the right iliac fossa, fever and defense muscle tenderness. The treatment is surgical and evolution is usually favorable.1

Clinical case

Is patient Male 9 years old, who presented to the emergency abdominal pain 26 hours of evolution associated with loss of appetite, fever free without vomiting. Tests reveal no additional inflammatory response (complete blood count unchanged); Abdominal ultrasound reports net in the right iliac fossa and observed hypoechoic image, which simulates the appendix; physical examination palpable mass in the right flank region of well defined edges smooth tender to palpation, with Mcburney positive sign as a sign of rebound; so before deciding described surgical treatment and is taken to the operating room with pre-operative diagnosis of complicated appendicitis. She underwent laparotomy incision umbilical transverse right infrastructure, finding appendix retrocecal no pathological changes, however observed primary omental torsion greater with ischemic changes this, so it is done omentectomy partial (Figure 1). Torque greater omentum is a pathological situation in which the body rotates on its axis axial until producing a compromise vascular strangulation thereof, necrosis and/or infarto.2 The primary twist has no known cause but speaks of predisposing factors, such as changes in the consistency of the omentum, anatomical malformation of the same or vascular abnormalities associated with triggers, such as obesity, abdominal trauma, violent exercise or hiperperistaltismo.3 The pictures produced by twisting secondary are more common and include illness herniaria,4 pictures of intra-abdominal inflammation, prior laparotomy or tumors, others, that make the free edge of the omentum is set to these structures.

The main clinical manifestation of torsion of the omentum greater abdominal pain whose location depends on the size of the portion and omentum affected;3 The lower right quadrant is the most common location. May include nausea, vomiting, fever, and in exceptional cases, you may feel a mass. Laboratory data are less expressive and plain abdominal radiography revealed no findings significativos.6 Throughout the literature the differential diagnosis has faced in a systematic manner with the senior officials of acute abdomen frequently, including appendicitis, cholecystitis and diverticulitis.

Other conditions of the greater omentum, which cause abdominal pain and should be differentiated, are myocardial segmental epiplón and a rare form of primary epiploitis pseudotumoral. The etiology of segmental infarction of omentum may be idiopathic or associated with vascular disease, previous quirúrgicas adhesions, abdominal trauma or torsion limited, and examination by ultrasound may be useful and steer toward a primary disease of the omentum (Figure 2).8–10

Abstract

It presents the clinical case of a pediatric patient of 9 years old male, of urban origin who underwent surgery for acute abdomen box with preoperative diagnosis of complicated appendicitis, finding the findings transquirúrgicos a primary omental torsion greater, performed a case report and a review of existing literature.

Keywords: acute abdomen, twisting, greater omentum
Primary torsion of the omentum as a cause of acute abdomen

Conclusion

The primary omental torsion larger, clinically behaves like a picture of acute abdomen in children whenever their management should be operative by the probability of developing sepsis pediatric patients than adults. With special studies such as Computed Tomography, if we make more accurate diagnosis, but the behavior is always the same.

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Conflicts of interest

The authors have no conflicts of interest to declare.

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References


Figure 2 Primary disease of the omentum.