

Intussusception in an Adult Due to Ectopic Gastric Mucosa in an Adenomatous Polyp without Meckel's Diverticulum

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We present a young adult who had an emergency laparotomy for acute small bowel obstruction. An ileo-ileocaecal intussusception was found & reduced. The segment of the ileum containing the leading point was resected; examination of which revealed an adenomatous polyp harboring ectopic gastric mucosa in non Meckel's diverticulum. The patient had uneventful postoperative course with no further complications. In an adult with intussusception resection of the affected segment should always be considered, even if it is viable in order not to miss an underlying pathology.

Bahrain Med Bull 2004;26(1):

Heterotopic gastric mucosa (HGM) in the small bowel is a rare anomaly¹. Approximately 30 cases of (HGM), located in the small bowel beyond the ligament of Treitz and not associated with Meckel's diverticulum, have been reported². Very few were reported in adult with intestinal obstruction in the absence of Meckel's diverticulum³. The clinical picture, usually, is that of acute intestinal obstruction, perforation of intestinal ulcer or intestinal bleeding and anemia⁴. We report on an adult with a single episode of small bowel intestinal obstruction due to heterotopic gastric mucosal polyp without Meckel's diverticulum.

THE CASE

Twenty seven years old male was admitted to the casualty with a clinical picture of acute small bowel obstruction. He gave no history of previous attack of similar nature. Plain X-rays revealed features of small bowel obstruction. An emergency laparotomy was done and an ileo-ileocaecal intussusception was found, which was reduced manually. Enterectomy of a bowel segment forming the leading point was done. Pathological examination of the resected specimen revealed 2 x 2 cm polypoid mass that was not felt intra-operatively. The mass was found harboring an ectopic gastric mucosa with parietal and chief cells. In one area the glands were tubular and lined by columnar epithelium while in other areas there was tubulovillous congestion. The patient had uneventful post operative course and on follow-up there was no further complaints.

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DISCUSSION

Intussusception is one of the most common causes of intestinal obstruction in infancy and childhood⁵. Most of the childhood Intussusception is idiopathic⁶.

In adults Intussusception, however, an underlying pathology is found in over 90% of cases⁷. Among various underlying causes of intussusception that has been reported in the literature are lymph node⁸, an inflammatory polyp⁹, Leiomyoma¹⁰, Peutz Jegher syndrome¹¹, infiltration of bowel wall in chronic lymphatic leukaemia¹² and metastatic testicular tumour¹³.

Gastric heterotopia as a cause of Intussusception was reported in few cases^{2,3,14-17}. The lesion can be congenital or acquired. The acquired form is secondary to inflammatory bowel disease³. Most of the patients are children. Only one case report of intussusception due to gastric heterotopia in adults was found and it was due to underlying intestinal tuberculosis³.

The diagnosis of gastric heterotopia as a cause of intussusception is challenging. Bertin reported a child who had three laparotomies before the resection of the segment of the small bowel revealed the presence of normal function gastric mucosa¹⁷.

Recently intra- operative endoscopy could reveal heterotopic gastric mucosa in a child who had several attacks of intestinal obstruction and when both physical examination and barium enema fail to make the diagnosis¹⁴.

CONCLUSION

Our patient is unique that he had intussusception due to gastric heterotopia, which is not secondary to other pathology. In the absence of diagnostic facilities resection of small bowel segment in adult with intussusception is recommended.

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