

Spontaneous Rupture of a Vessel over a Subserous Uterine Fibroid

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Uterine fibroids are common in females of reproductive age. Generally, uterine fibroids are a benign condition and acute complications are rare. Reported acute complications include rupture of vessels overlying the fibroid and rupture of uterine fibroids that may lead to life-threatening intraperitoneal hemorrhage. Prompt diagnosis and management are mandatory in emergency gynecological practice.

A forty-eight-year-old female presented with sudden onset of abdominal pain of four hours duration. The patient had four uncomplicated vaginal deliveries. Abdominal ultrasound was suggestive of intraperitoneal hemorrhage. An intact uterine fundal fibroid measuring 8x7.2 cm was found. CT scan revealed an enlarged uterus with multiple large fibroids.

The patient underwent emergency exploratory laparotomy. Intraoperatively, a spurting vessel over the surface of the fundal subserosal uterine fibroid was found. A total abdominal hysterectomy was performed. The postoperative period was uneventful. She was discharged in a stable condition with a hemoglobin of 10 gm.