

Secondary amenorrhea due to an imperforate hymen in a 13-year-old patient 4310296

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Introduction

Secondary amenorrhea is the absence of menstruation for at least three consecutive cycles or six months in a woman with previously regular periods. The hypothalamic-pituitary-ovarian (HPO) axis regulates menstruation, and disruptions in this system can lead to amenorrhea.

A 13-year-old girl presents with severe abdominal pain in the hypogastrium. She denies any personal pathological or family history. She has not experienced menarche, but reports thelarche and pubarche one year prior. Physical examination reveals tenderness and a globular abdomen with a localized mass at the umbilical scar. An ultrasound shows a 9x9x13 cm mass, with a homogeneous uterine pattern (figure 1). Lab tests show elevated CA125 (128 U/ml) and carcinoembryonic antigen (8.3 ng/ml).

Laparoscopy reveals an enlarged uterus with intact adnexa and pelvic walls with hemosiderin deposits, indicating retrograde menstruation. Vaginal inspection reveals an imperforate hymen, which is incised to relieve symptoms. After reintroducing the laparoscope, a reduction in uterine size is noted, with the peritoneal walls still showing hemosiderin deposits figure 2).

Conclusion

Imperforate hymen is a congenital condition where the hymen lacks an opening, obstructing menstrual flow. It is typically diagnosed during adolescence, often when menstruation is absent or causes pelvic pain. Treatment involves a surgical procedure to create an opening.



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