



EARLY DIAGNOSIS OF FORAMEN OF WINSLOW HERNIA ALLOWS FOR SUCCESSFUL LAPAROSCOPIC INTERVENTION



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INTRODUCTION

- Foramen of Winslow hernias are rare causes of internal hernias that carry a high risk of morbidity and mortality(1).
- These hernias occur in the communication space between the great and lesser sac, posterior to the hepatoduodenal ligament, anterior to the inferior vena cava, superior to duodenum, and inferior to the caudate lobe of the liver (2).
- Comprising of only 8% of all internal hernias, their diagnosis is easy to be missed and can lead to strangulation of bowel requiring an exploratory laparotomy and bowel resection (3,4).

STUDY OBJECTIVES

- The aim of this is to present a case report of a rare, hard to diagnose intra-abdominal pathology

METHODS

- Here we present a case report of a patient with a short duration of abdominal pain and early diagnosis of the Foramen of Winslow Hernia allowing for laparoscopic reduction of hernia contents.
- Literature review was performed on PubMed using keywords including the “incidence”, “management”, and “diagnosis” of Foramen of Winslow Hernias.

Case Presentation Summary

- A 75-year-old female presented with abdominal pain and nausea that started at earlier in the day.
- Her vitals were within normal limits and blood work was significant for normal white blood cell count and a normal lactate level.
- Her abdominal exam revealed mild tenderness in the epigastrium without any peritonitis or guarding.
- A computed tomography scan showed the terminal ileum and cecum to be within the Foramen of Winslow. No evidence of bowel compromise such as pneumatosis or free fluid was noted.
- She was taken to the operating room for a diagnostic laparoscopy where the terminal ileum and cecum along with its long mesentery were able to be reduced.
- The patient then went on to have an uneventful postoperative recovery and was discharged on postoperative day two.

Conclusion

- Often due to delayed presentation of patients or a delay in diagnosis of Foramen of Winslow hernias patients present with bowel compromise and require an exploratory laparotomy and bowel resection.
- Increased knowledge of rare forms of hernias allows for early diagnosis, expeditious care, and higher likelihood of performing minimally invasive surgery successfully



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