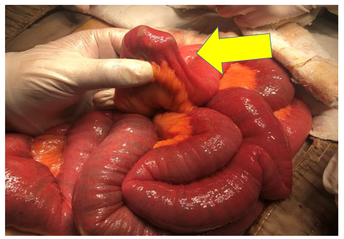
GALLSTONE ILEUS AS A CAUSE OF INTESTINAL OBSTRUCTION

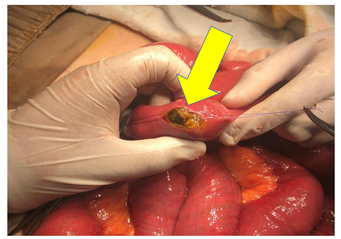
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Introduction

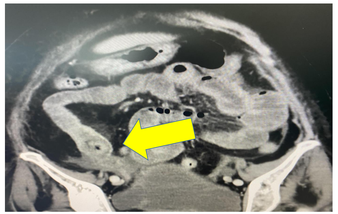
Gallstone ileus is an important, though infrequent, cause of mechanical bowel obstruction, affecting older adult patients who often have other significant medical conditions. It is caused by impaction of a gallstone in the ileum after being passed through a biliary-enteric fistula. The diagnosis is often delayed since symptoms may be intermittent and investigations fail to identify the cause of the obstruction. The mainstay of treatment is removal of the obstructing stone after resuscitating the patient. Gallstone ileus continues to be associated with relatively high rates of morbidity and mortality.



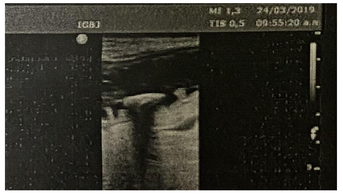


Yellow arrow shows gallstone ileus, Green arrow shows fistula









Methods

We present a case of a 71 year old women with two weeks of abdominal pain, history of cholecystectomy 30 years ago, and choledocolitiasis 4 years before this consult. She presented with abdominal pain and jaundice, with remarkable abdominal distension. This atypical rare presentation, make us doubt about an obstruction of the bowel, but recurrent exams shows obstruction of the small bowel associated with nausea and vomiting. Since this patient present also jaundice and a previous history of choledocolitiasis, an ERCP was perform, confirming a cholecystenteric fistula and the previous installation of a biliary endoscopic drain. During the ERCP stones from the bile duct were removed. A final exam demonstrates an image atypical at the ileum, where the obstruction was produced compatible with a gallstone ileus. A surgery was perform with the removal of a big stone at the ileum, concluding with the suspicious images that were also rests of previous biliary plastic drains. This experience shows how atypical a condition like a gallstone could be, and how difficult the diagnosis is, making this pathology, challenging and rare.

Results

After performing the surgery the patient, remain at the hospital for 7 days. This rare condition is related to old patients with no previous treatment of the cholelitiasis, Associated to a Mirizzi syndrome type V. Gallstone ileus is an important, though rare, cause of mechanical bowel obstruction, affecting older adult patients who often have significant comorbid conditions. the main treatment of resolution of the pathology is surgery. The best way to help people with this pathology always is make a good clinical examination.

References

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