Fish Hook Acute Appendicitis-Case Report

Jallad F, Hashem M.M, Hamied.H, General Network for Health Providers Hospital-GNP,Jeddah,KSA

Introduction

Ingestion of fish hook during eating is rare to cause acute supportive appendicitis.

Case Presentation

A 71 years old male, known case of ischemic heart disease complained of mild lower abdominal colicky pain more than 8 days. The patient did not complain of anorexia, nausea, or fever. He had diarrhea for few days then stopped spontaneously. The examination showed mild tenderness in the right iliac fossa area without any guarding or rigidity. The patient has mild leukocytosis. An abdominal CT scan was done and showed acute supportive appendicitis with fecalith without abscess, phlegmon or mass. He had an open appendectomy due to he has ischemic heart disease which cannot do laparoscopic surgery. We found the appendix tip-like mass with fish hook inside this mass with small perforation found and a few amounts of pus. Post-operation recovery patient doing well and discharged after 2 days post-operation. The histopathology showed supportive appendicitis and there was no malignancy.

Discussion

Ingestion of a foreign body is common and can cause acute appendicitis. Fishbones ingestion is the most foreign body ingestion. Almost of ingested objects are impacted in the cricopharyngeal area but more common to pass the gastroenterology tract without impaction or perforation. Other common sites of impaction in the terminal ileum, duodenum, caecum, and appendix. Sharp objects like pins or fish bones mostly case perforations. The peristaltic movement of the bowel pushed the ingested object from the small bowel to the caecum then to the appendiceal lumen. Careless eater like children, older poor vision, and mental disorders patients are likely to have acute appendicitis related to ingestion of foreign body. Our patient developed symptoms after 8 days from ingestion and literature reported the symptoms appeared between 3-16 days post-ingestion. Foreign body ingestion most likely did not appear in the abdominal CT scan and showed no specific findings. In our case, the radiologist cannot differentiate between fish hook and faecolith.The appendectomy is the only curable of fishbone appendicitis.

Conclusion

Fish hook ingestion is rare but can cause impaction, perforation, or acute appendicitis.

References

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