# AN UNEXPECTED STREAK

## TWO CASES OF VERMIFORM APPENDIX IN A PORT SITE HERNIA

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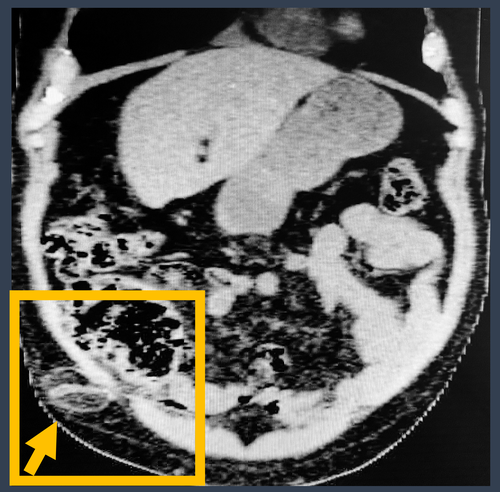
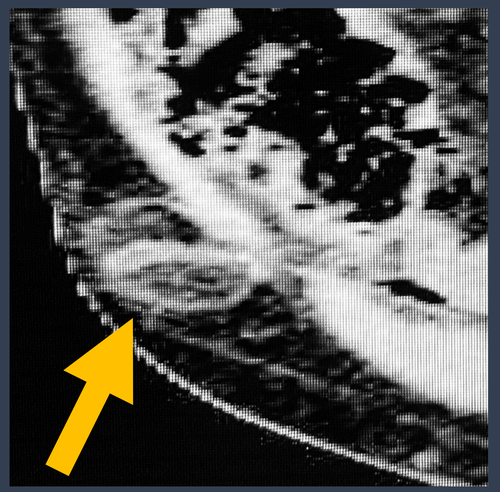


*Figure 1 A –B: CT abdomen and pelvis, coronal view showing vermiform appendix within a port-site hernia.*



### INTRODUCTION

Port site hernias (PSHs) are a well-known potential complication after laparoscopy. PSHs containing vermiform appendix are a rare variant of PSHs only reported 10 times. We present 2 cases of PSHs containing vermiform appendix which occurred within 2 years from each other.

### CASE 1

A 78-year-old male was referred to us with a right iliac fossa hernia at the site of the 10 mm port, 4 years after laparoscopic low anterior resection due to sigmoid carcinoma. The CT revealed the vermiform appendix in the hernial sac and adhesions especially in the right iliac fossa (Fig. 1A-B).

The patient was an ex-smoker with ASA2 and BMI 32.5. We therefore performed a small open hernia repair with antibiotic prophylaxis. The appendix and the hernia sac (Fig. 2) were removed, the hernia defect was closed with non-absorbable sutures and fascia was reinforced with an onlay Prolene mesh. The postoperative course was uneventful.

The patient remains asymptomatic at 36 months after surgery with no symptoms of recurrence.

### CASE 2

A 38-year-old woman was referred to us with right iliac fossa pain and elevated inflammatory markers. She previously underwent a diagnostic laparoscopy 13 months prior to this admission for suspected diagnosis of endometriosis, which was ruled out.

Given strong suspicion of appendicitis, a diagnostic laparoscopy was performed. The vermiform appendix was found in a small hernia at the previous site of the 5 mm trocar in right iliac fossa (Fig. 3). The hernia was reduced and appendectomy under antibiotic prophylaxis was performed. The defect in the abdominal wall was closed laparoscopically with a non-absorbable suture. The postoperative course was uneventful. The patient remains asymptomatic 12 months after surgery with no evidence of recurrence.

### LEARNING POINTS

1. **Port site hernias containing vermiform appendix are a rare occurrence according to literature.**
2. **They can successfully be managed through both open and laparoscopic approach.**
3. **Management should therefore be individually tailored to the patient**

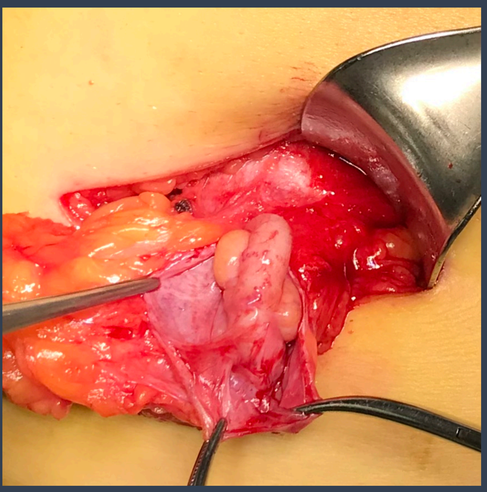


*Figure 2 and 3: Intraoperative photograph of hernal sack containing the appendix. Case 1 (fig 2) and Case 2 (fig 3).*

