Management of Giant Gall Bladder of 4.5 Liters Capacity

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Introduction

A ‘giant’ gallbladder is defined as an extreme enlargement of the organ with a volume more than 1.5 litres, so that its weight is comparable to weight of the adult liver (1.5 kg). Giant gall bladders of various capacities have been reported till now. This is the only case where ICG-NIR imaging was done.

Case

A 73 year old gentleman with history of chronic abdominal pain with distension was investigated and found to have a large cyst occupying all quadrants of abdomen, there was leucocytosis, SGOT SGPT and ALP were raised, hence MRCP was done. Fluid was thick in consistency with cyst capacity was around 4450 mL. Organ of origin could not be commented on because of shear size of the cyst. Gall bladder was not visualised. There was an impending cysto-cutaneous fistula at the site of needle aspiration. Stent was visible in CBD. Intrahepatic radicles were not dilated. With these findings, diagnosis of a massive cyst in abdomen with cysto-cutaneous fistula was made and exploratory laparotomy was planned. Since, gall bladder was not visualised, Indo-cyanine green dye was injected 90 minutes before the exploration. Intra-operative ICG-NIR imaging suggested of a massive gall bladder Calot’s triangle was completely demonstrated. Cholecystectomy was done. The content of the gall bladder was 4.5 litres and the weight was 1100 grams. Histopathological examination suggested of Xanthogranulomatous Cholecystitis.

Result

The shear size of the giant gall bladder, the Calot’s triangle identification and detection of structures was extremely difficult but was made easy by the use of ICG-NIR imaging intra-operatively.







