Intestinal perforation in a patient with omental cake due to stage IV gastric cancer

Nataly Gisseth Montañez(1), Luis Felipe Cabrera (2), Mauricio Pedraza (2)
1. Faculty of Medicine, Universidad El Bosque
2. General Surgery Department, Universidad el Bosque
3. Los Cobos Medical Center

SAGES 2025

UNIVERSIDAD EL BOSQUE

Semillero de Investigación en Cirugía general y Subespecialidades de la Universidad El Bosque

Introduction

Diffuse peritoneal infiltration can be identified as a radiological sign called "Omental Cake", a phenomenon characterized by the infiltration of tumor tissue into the omentum, which is a form of peritoneal carcinomatosis that becomes evident when there is the presence of an advanced neoplastic process in the abdominal region, most commonly associated with gynecological, pancreatic, gastric and/or colorectal cancer, which increases the risk of a series of pathological alterations that predispose to intestinal perforation.

Case



30-year-old male patient with stage IV gastric adenocarcinoma with peritoneal involvement, along with metastasis to the lung and central nervous system.
Given the stage of the adenocarcinoma, the patient was under palliative care with 8L evacuation paracentesis per week as he had repeated ascites.



After one of the paracentesis, the patient presented abdominal distension that did not improve despite evacuation of ascitic fluid, so intestinal perforation secondary to paracentesis was suspected and the patient underwent diagnostic laparoscopy, where omental cake was found. A CVC was left in place to drain the pneumo, which was left in place for two weeks, resolved, and the patient continued with palliative care.

Results

Diagnostic laparoscopy confirmed the diagnosis and managed the complication palliatively, improving the patient's quality of life.

Conclusions

- This case highlights the importance of a multidisciplinary approach in the treatment of patients with advanced cancer, optimizing the management of complications and symptomatic support.
- The diagnosis and management of peritoneal carcinomatosis, especially in cases with malignant ascites, is comprehensive and has a high risk of complications.

References

Scan me!