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Ileo-Cecal Lipomatosis Mimicking Acute Appendicitis Complicated with Appendicular Abscess: A Case Report

Background

Lipomatosis of the ileo-cecal region is a rare benign condition characterized by diffuse infiltration of mature adipose tissue. It is often asymptomatic but may occasionally present with acute abdominal symptoms mimicking other common pathologies such as acute appendicitis.

Case Presentation

We report the case of a 34-year-old female who presented with clinical features suggestive of acute appendicitis. Imaging revealed an inflammatory mass in the right iliac fossa, and an exploratory laparotomy uncovered extensive lipomatosis involving the ileo-cecal area, complicated by an appendicular abscess. The affected tissues were resected, and histopathology confirmed lipomatosis without evidence of malignancy.

Discussion

This case highlights the diagnostic challenge posed by ileo-cecal lipomatosis, particularly when complicated by secondary infection or abscess formation. It emphasizes the importance of considering rare etiologies in cases of atypical appendicitis presentations and discusses the role of imaging and intraoperative assessment in guiding surgical decision-making.

Conclusion

Ileo-cecal lipomatosis, although rare, should be included in the differential diagnosis of acute abdomen in adults. Early recognition and appropriate surgical intervention are essential to avoid misdiagnosis and ensure favorable outcomes.

Biography

Dr. Eman I. Osman is a Specialist General Surgeon at Hafar Al-Batin Central Hospital, Saudi Arabia. Her clinical practice focuses on emergency general surgery, minimally invasive procedures. I actively engaged in surgical research and education, with interest in rare abdominal pathologies.