Giant Complete rectal prolapse: a case report

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Abstract

Rectal prolapse is an intussusception of the rectum through the anal canal. The extent of the prolapse varies from the rectal mucosa to the full thickness of the rectum and sigmoid colon. It usually appears after 50 years of age, with a female predominance of over 80–90% of cases.

Any condition leading to increased intrabdominal pressure is contributory. This rectal prolapse is always an inconvenience for patient. In his article, we discuss a case of giant rectal prolapse that occurred in a young male patient

Key words: Anorectal disease, Rectal prolapse, emergency, surgery

Introduction

Rectal prolapse is classified into complete or full thickness prolapse and incomplete or mucosal prolapse. Complete prolapse occurs in older adults while the latter occurs both in children and adults. This report is based on complete rectal prolapse, which is rare in males and it is associated with weak pelvic and anal musculature. Rectal prolapse is an anatomical abnormality and mostly ll' requires surgical correction.

Case Report

A 26-year-old Indian male not known to have any medical problem except for hypertension, was presented to Emergency Room of King Khalid Hospital Hail with a huge painful protruding mass through the anus since few 4 prior to presentation . The patient had no similar presentation and denied any history of chronic constipation or incontinence. General physical examination was normal. Systemic and abdominal examination was normal. Per- rectal examination revealed large protruding rectal mass with oedema and a thickened congested wall (Figure:1a).A diagnosis of giant irreducible complete rectal prolapse has been made. A gentle trail of concervative treatment and manual reduction unfortunately failed .

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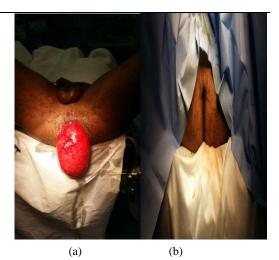


Figure :1 (a) Intraoperative photo taken perfore the successful manual reduction under GA showing the giant viable complete rectal prolapse .(b) successful result with complete reduction after gentle manual reduction.

The situation discussed fully with our patient about possibility of perineal rectosigmoidectomy should reduction fail with possibility of loop ileostomy .The patient was taken to the theatre and successful reduction was done under general anesthesia(Figure:1b).Postoperatively ,he was kept in the hospital and Colonoscopy was done and showed no abnormality. The situation was discussed with the patient about the available options. Informed consent was obtained. The patient was prepared in the nearest elective list for open mesh rectopexy using a prolene mesh fixed to the sides of rectum with interrupted prolene 2/0 stiches and to the presacral fascia with tacker fixation device. Before closure ,a rigid sigmoidoscopy was used to confirm proper placement of sutures avoiding the rectal mucosa. Also the anterior wall of rectum was not covered by the mesh. At the end of surgery, saline wash was done and a drain was left in the pelvis then the peritoneum closed over the mesh .The abdomen closed with mass closure technique and skin clips applied. Postoperatively, he made uneventful recovery and discharged in a good condition .He was followed in outpatient clinic for several months and showed no recurrence .

Discussion

There is still some debate about the exact pathophysiologic mechanism of RP. The prevailing theories are those of sliding herniation and progressive internal intussusception. The most usual form of RP is the chronic course of the disorder, incarcerated or strangulated RP is a rare scenario, where urgent surgical treatment becomes a priority [1].

Anal manometry, anal ultrasound, defecography, anal electromyography, pudendal nerve terminal motor latency test, sigmoidoscopy, colonoscopy and magnetic resonance imaging are tests used in evaluation of rectal prolapse.

Initially there is a conservative management for rectal prolapse with stool softeners or laxatives and avoidance of prolonged straining. These conservative methods allow reduction of the prolapsed rectum. Oedema may be reduced by the application of sugar, by the injection of Hyaluronidase, or by applying an elastic compression wrap[2-4]

A wide spectrum of operative procedures are available mainly for elective cases [5]. They are categorized as resective, fixative or a combination of both in order to achieve 2 goals: anatomical repositioning of the bowel and improvement of the function of the anorectal complex. The approach may be either abdominal or perineal. Abdominal approaches are performed in patients fit enough to tolerate laparotomy as these seem to result in lower recurrence rates [6], perhaps with the exception of young men who cannot afford the increased risk of impotence and infertility from an abdominal operation[7]. In elective cases, rectopexy, using fixing material (mesh, sutures, clips), is the most popular operation with good results concerning recurrence [8,9]. In the modern era of surgery, the above operations can be accomplished laparoscopically with minimal morbidity and mortality [10].

When the prolapsed bowel is incarcerated or strangulated and cannot return to its anatomic position, an urgent surgical intervention is always indicated. The operation of choice is perineal proctosigmoidectomy with or without colostomy [11-13].

Conclusion

The surgical procedures for rectal prolapse are diverse, indicating that the precise etiology and treatment strategy have not been clearly established. If the best procedure is to be selected and favorable outcomes achieved, careful considerations of patient's information and surgeon's clinical experience are required. Unlike surgery for malignancy, the functional aspects, such as quality of life and defecation, should be considered carefully in surgery for rectal prolapse. Attention should be paid to multidimensional patient care, as well as surgical techniques. Particularly, rectal prolapse patients may have a uterine prolapse or a bladder prolapse; thus, a multidisciplinary team approach may also become important. For the best results, a considered plan prior to surgery, optimal surgery by an experienced hand and careful patient care are important.

Author Contribution

All authors contributed to conception and design, manuscript preparation, read and approved the final manuscript.

Conflicts of Interest

The Authors declares no conflict of interest.

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