

A RARE CAUSE OF MESENTERIC ARTERIAL OCCLUSION:

EMBOLUS DUE TO RUPTURED MYOCARDIAL HYDATID CYST

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Summary: Acute superior mesenteric arterial occlusion is a rare but fatal clinical condition. The main causes of the occlusion are thrombosis and thrombotic emboli. Hydatid disease may be a very rare cause in special situation as it is in this case. An interesting aspect of the hydatid disease located in the left ventricle wall caused superior mesenteric arterial emboli as well as the cerebral arteries.

Acute superior mesenteric arterial occlusion is a rare clinical condition. It is a cause of acute abdomen threatens the life with a 90 percent mortality rate (9). In general, it is reported that acute mesenteric arterial occlusion was diagnosed in 0.9 per cent of the patients admitted to emergency services with acute abdomen (4,9).



The primary hydatid cyst located in the brain which had been treated in the first operation

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Most of the mesenteric arterial occlusions develop as a result of mesenteric arterial thrombosis or cardioaortic originated embolus (5).

In addition, external tumoral pressure, air and fat embolus and ruptured of a hydatid cyst to the arterial system were accepted the rare cause of mesenteric arterial occlusion (5,9).

Symptoms of acute mesenteric arterial occlusion are nonspecific and the differential diagnosis is quite difficult (9). The most common symptoms are abdominal pain, nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea and gastrointestinal tract bleeding. Physical findings are nonspecific such as hypotension, tachycardia, fever, hypovolemia and generalized peritoneal irritation (5,9). Hydatid disease is a common entity in Turkey, so we have the chance to see every form of the disease, particularly in the rural area (12). In this paper, an interesting aspect of the disease is reported.

Case report

A twenty years old man was admitted to the neurosurgical clinics with sudden headache, nausea, dizziness, generalized urticaria and mild abdominal pain on 18th December 1989. He had been operated for cerebral hydatid cyst in July 1986 and he had been followed for recurrent cysts by cerebral tomography intermittantly during the following last two years.

Eighteen months later multiple small sized cerebral cysts had been appeared causing to epileptic seizures which were managed by antiepileptic drugs.

On December 18 th 1989 he was sent to our department due the increase of abdominal pain forming muscular defence and rebound tenderness. The abdominal plane radiography and ultrasonography revealed a 2 cm cystic lesion in the lower pole of the



Extraction of the embolized daughter vesicle throughout the leocrin artery

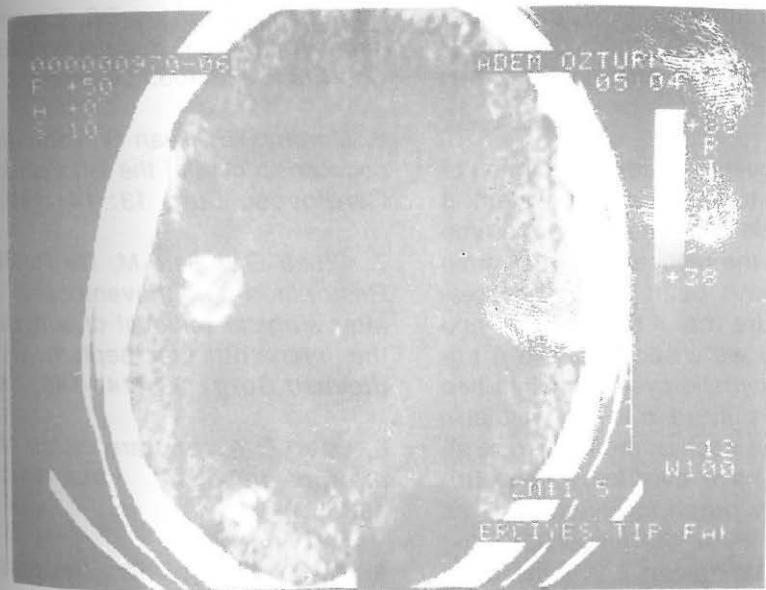
spleen but nothing else. A mild cardiac murmur was recorded on the mitral focus. On the following day the patient submitted to echocardiography which revealed irregular cystic cavitation on the left ventricular lateral wall.

On the same day is abdominal pathological findings progressed and he was operated for a probable mesenteric arterial occlusion due to an embolus from a ruptured myocardial hydatid cyst. A 160 cm segment of the distal small bowel was cyanotic and pulseless, with abnormal thickening in the resembling mesenteric arterial branches, through which two daughter hydatid cysts were extracted by a Fogarty catheter

After revascularization, in a 60 cm ileal segment the cyanosis persistent, so that, it was

resected. Splenectomy was performed for splenic hydatid disease which had been diagnosed preoperatively. Albendazole (70 mg/kg) was started for the probable residual daughter cysts or scolices disseminated in the vascularity. He was sent home on the 17 th postoperative day.

The control echocardiography after 2 months Albendazole treatment showed no residual pathological image resembling the previous myocardial cystic cavity. Whereas, on May 4th, 1990 he was admitted to the hospital for a new attack of headache, epileptic seizures and some neurological defects, CT revealed seven different cystic images in the brain (Figure 3).



The recurrent hydatid cysts which have been removed in the second operation. The calcified lesions resembling previously treated hydatid cysts.

Which were removed surgically again. His general condition is well and he has no cardiac murmur but, a mild left hemiparesia already.

Discussion

However hydatid daughter vesicular embolisation into the mesenteric arteries is a possible entity, theoretically there is no such a report about a survived case yet except a few autopsy report (6,7,8).

As a hydatid cyst in the left ventricular wall is ruptured multiple embolisation is possible in the organs like the brain, the lung, the liver, the gastrointestinal system and the lower extremities (1,2,3,6,7,13). In this case, the cerebral and the arterial only mesenteric arterial embolisation have been occurred, with no sign of embolisation in the other organs as a good chance. The case was diagnosed preoperatively and treated successfully by mesenteric embolectomy and craniotomy.

Primary hydatid cyst caused by *E. granulosus* can reside in to any tissue or system. It may attack multiple organ systems at a time (11). In this case the myocardium, the brain and the spleen have been attacked. However we are not sure that if the cerebral and the splenic lesion were secondary to a primary myocardial hydatid cyst that might had been previously fistulized in to the ventricle chamber. Whereas each of them are rare situations that we have ever know. The frequency of primary organ involvement is as follows: The liver 60%, the lungs 30%, the peritoneum 9%, the spleen 3.2%, the brain 1.5%, the abdominal wall 1.6%, the retroperitoneum 1.4%, the muscles 1%, the kidney 0.4%, the pancreas 0.4% the mammaryes 2% and the myocardium 0.5% (5,10).

Kaynaklar

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