

**PP004 A CASE OF INTRA-
ABDOMINAL ABSCESS DUE TO
CHRONICALLY RETAINED
FECALITH POST
APPENDICECTOMY**

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INTRODUCTION

Intra-abdominal abscess post appendectomy is well known, especially in cases of perforated appendicitis, the frequency can up to 20%. However, intra-abdominal abscess secondary to retained fecalith is rarely reported. We report an unrecognized, retained appendiceal fecalith giving rise to an intra-abdominal abscess 6 years after appendectomy which is a rare and unexpected postoperative complication.

CASE PRESENTATION

A 13 years old Malay boy presented to Emergency Department with 2 weeks history of abdominal pain over suprapubic and right iliac fossa region, which associated with fever, dysuria, vomiting and diarrhea. Clinically, abdomen is soft but tender and guarded over suprapubic and right iliac fossa. He has history of abscess drainage and appendicectomy 6 years ago at private hospital for appendicular abscess secondary to perforated retrocaecal appendicitis. Ultrasound abdomen noted right pelvic collection. Computed tomography of abdomen revealed multiloculated collection at right iliac fossa (5.5cm x 4.3cm x 5.9cm) extending to pelvis compressing right urinary bladder wall. Laparotomy, excision of omental inflammatory mass and peritoneal washout done. Intra-operatively noted inflammatory mass formed by omentum (10cc pus), adherent to small bowel and anterior abdominal wall, caecum and appendix stump healthy. The diagnosis of intra-

abdominal abscess secondary to retained fecolith was made.

DISCUSSION

Fecaliths are composed of inspissated fecal material, mucus with trapped calcium phosphate and inorganic salts. The risk of a retained fecalith is high in perforated appendicitis. It can also drop at the time of resection of the appendix or during forceful extraction through the port. Days to years can elapse between an appendectomy and clinical manifestations of a retained fecalith. The management of a complicated fecalith is open or laparoscopic surgery.

CONCLUSION

Retained fecalith after appendectomy is a rare complication and it may occur up to years post operation. Urgent removal of retained fecalith is essential as its potential to cause abscess.