

Management of Adnexal Torsion in Extreme Ages

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Abstract

Adnexal torsion is a rare gynecological emergency that requires an early surgical intervention to save the adnexa from irreversible damage. Our study is about clinical presentation and management approach of adnexal torsion in a tertiary care Centre. We present 2 cases who present with adnexal torsion in extreme age, and differential diagnosis, one of them 13 years old, the other one 75 years old, surgical laparoscopy was the definitive line of diagnostic and therapeutic.

Keywords: Adnexal torsion; Laparoscopy; Gynecological emergency; Ovarian cyst; Tumor markers; Ultrasound; Abdominal hysterectomy

Introduction

Ovarian torsion refers to the complete or partial rotation of the ovary on its ligamentous supports, often resulting in impedance of its blood supply. It is one of the most common gynecologic emergencies and may affect females of all ages [1]. When fallopian tube also twists with the ovary it is known as adnexal [2]. Prompt diagnosis is important to preserve ovarian and/or tubal function and to prevent other associated morbidity. However, making the diagnosis can be challenging because the symptoms are relatively nonspecific. Adnexal torsion mostly occurs in childbearing group, but is not uncommon in premenarchal girls or postmenopausal women [3]

It is important to note that torsion may occur in the presence of normal ovaries, particularly in the pediatric population [4]. As the symptoms are nonspecific it can lead to delay in diagnosing adnexal torsion. In a study of 179 patients, the clinical features of pelvic pain was found in 82%, nausea/vomiting in 49%, leukocytosis in 20.1%, fever in 7.8% and lower urinary symptoms in 14.5% [5].

Management

Laboratory investigations and imaging using Doppler scan, CT, MRI, helps in diagnosis. However surgical intervention, preferably by laparoscopy is the gold standard for diagnosis and treatment of adnexal torsion. The sensitivity of ultrasound in diagnosing torsion ranges from 40-75% [6]. In a study of 35 patients of adnexal torsion, correct diagnosis by clinical and sonography was only in 26% and with CT scan in 34% of cases [7]. Conservative surgery such as detorsion with cystectomy or cyst aspiration is preferred to removal of the adnexa when possible.

Case report 1

13y old girl came through emergency department complaining of right iliac fossa pain, pain associated with frequent vomiting. Appendicitis was suspected, but patient discharged to home. She came referred from private hospital with diagnosis of equivocal right ovarian cyst /ovarian accident. The pain was dull aching, no relieving or aggravating factors, she described it as something pressing on her right lower abdomen, no urinary symptoms, pain was less severe than the presentation at first time. Gynecological history: menarche, since

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one and half year ,regular cycle, last menstrual period was two weeks ago. No other significant past medical or surgical history. Vital sign was normal Abdomen examination: soft, with moderate right iliac fossa tenderness, no rebound tenderness.

Plan of management:

- ultrasound of abdomen &pelvis
- routine laboratory investigations
- possible CT scan of abdomen
- analgesics
- intravenous fluids
- to keep the patient fasting

Pelvic ultrasound reveals:

Right ovariancyst (5.2*5 cm) shows internal septation give appearance of hemorrhagic ovarian cyst.

- the left ovary was normal
- cul de sac: minimal nonspecific fluid seen

Laboratory investigations:

Platelet: 228

White blood cell: 8.2

Hemoglobin: 12.1

Kidney function test and liver function test: within normal range

ESR: within normal range

Tumor markers within normal range

Laparotomy was decided by her consultant and his team

Patient prepared to operation room

Preoperative diagnosis: right ovarian cyst

Post-operative diagnosis: torsion hemorrhagic right ovarian cyst

Operation: abdominal laparotomy with removal of the torsion hemorrhagic right ovarian cyst with right salpingo ophrectomy (right ovary and tubes severely congested and right ovary completely destroyed by hemorrhagic cyst and torsion

Left ovary and tubes looked normal.

Case report 2

75 y old female patient referred from surgical department as surgical free.

She is p10+0

All her deliveries was normal spontaneous vaginal delivery

Menopausal more than 25y

No medical history of significance

Positive history of cholecystectomy

Her main complaint is lower abdominal pain with vomiting since 2 Days, the pain started lower abdominal then became more generalized, progressive, not responding to light analgesics. On examination, patient looks unwell, v/s stable.

Abdomen examination: no vein engorged or spider nevi seen, there is suprapubic tender mass extended to the right of midline below the umbilicus, nospleno or hepatomegaly. Pelvic ultrasound showed: right cystic lesion measuring about 16*10*12 cm most likely adnexal in origin.

Ct with Contract

Evidence of pear shaped complex lesion measuring about 17*10 cm elicits predominant cystic component with basal solid component is seen having intimate relation to the right ovary with oblique axis crossing the midline to the contralateral side .besides ,there is minimal free fluid seen at the right high adnexal region.

Laboratory investigation:

Liver function test: within normal range

Kidney function test: within normal range

PLT (Platlet) 224

Wbc (white blood cell count) 8.2

Hg: 12.1

Esr:-ve

Tumor markers: within normal range

Patient prepared for laparotomy

-under general anesthesia abdominal exploration by laparotomy revealed torsion congested hemorrhagic right adnexal mass included right ovary and right fallopian tube about 17*13 cm twisted twice extend from the right ovary upward to the diaphragm on the left side surrounded with hemorrhagic fluid

So, total abdominal hysterectomy done with bilateral salpingo oophorectomy and removal of right adnexal mass done

Examination of lymph node done, not felt

Sample taken from greater omentum and send to histopath.

Conclusion

Diagnosis of ovarian torsion is a difficult task which requires good clinical awareness. High index of clinical suspicion is the most important factor in diagnosing adnexal torsion. Ultrasound with Doppler helps in diagnosing adnexal mass with torsion. Laparoscopy is not only useful for diagnosis but also for treating torsion with less morbidity. Conservative surgery is preferred for patients in the reproductive age group.

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