

Clinical Image

Acute Appendicitis in Duplicated Appendix: Images in Medicine

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Visual Case Discussion

A 26-year-old male patient, with a 3-days history of periumbilical pain which had localized to the right iliac fossa by the time he attended the hospital, was admitted to the emergency department of our hospital. The abdominal examination revealed a soft abdomen, rebound tenderness in the right iliac-fossa, and a positive psoas sign. He was not peritonitic and had a negative Rosving's sign and absent hernias.

Blood tests showed a mild leucocytosis of $12.5 \times 10^9/l$ (range, $4.0-11.0 \times 10^9/l$) with a neutrophilia of $10.5 \times 10^9/l$ (range, $2.0-7.5 \times 10^9/l$) and a CRP of 90mg/l.

Ultrasonography confirmed a diagnosis of appendicitis by the presence of free fluid within the RIF and within the 10mm appendix which was incompressible.

Under general anesthesia, the surgical exploration by laparotomy revealed the presence of acute appendicitis, but the meticulous investigation of the area around the cecum detected a second appendix with a definite mesoappendix and obvious signs of inflammation (Figure 1). Formal appendectomy was then performed for both processes (Figure 2).

Following surgery, the patient was stable and recovered well, and was discharged two days later. The histological examination of the appendix confirmed the diagnosis of acute purulent appendicitis for the first appendix, and a catarrhal form for the second one.

Keywords: Duplicate appendix; Acute Appendicitis; Appendectomy



Figure 1: Intraoperative image showing the appendicular duplication.



Figure 2: Image of the two appendices after resection.