



Foreign body in the vagina a rare case report

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ABSTRACT

An elderly lady came to our gynaecology clinic with foul smelling vaginal discharge since 2 years. It was a case of retained foreign body in vagina for 6 years, a wood apple was inserted to reduce uterine prolapsed. The is rare presentation now a days.

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Keywords

Foreign body,
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White discharge.

Introduction

Vaginal foreign bodies is quite common in young children but it is rare finding in adults. Vaginal foreign body placement for the management of genital prolapsed has been described since the time of the ancient Greeks. Hippocrates described the use of pomegranates soaked in vinegar as pessaries. Other materials used as vaginal foreign bodies like fruits, bronze, cotton, wool and linen. Most of these materials were in ball, oval or ring form[1].

However, these are known to cause serious complication if proper care is not taken. Although surgery is the definitive treatment for severe uterine prolapsed[2]In developing countries, pelvic organ prolapsed is a very commonly seen in reproductive age group. Most women do not seek medical attention due to shyness, lack of family support or poverty.

Case Report

A 62 yr elderly woman, who is from a rural background presented to Gynaecology clinic with white discharge which is foul smelling since 2 yrs. General examination was within normal limits. Per abdomen no palpable masses. Local genitalia shows foul smelling white discharge. Per speculum shows a hard mass in the vagina with a foul smelling discharge which was black in color.



Fig 1. Hard mass of about 8-10cm in the vagina

On further history taking she gives a history of mass per vagina 8yrs back, for which she went to a local quack where a ball like object was kept inside the vagina 6yrs back.

All blood reports were normal. Antibiotics were started and patient was posted for foreign body removal in minor OT under local anesthesia.

On vaginal examination there was a hard mass of about 8-10cm in the vagina. Fig(1)

It was not possible to remove with the hand. So the mass was held with a vulsellum and tried delivering out (fig 2).

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Fig 2. Mass was held with a vulsellum

During this process, the mass got crack & broken, so we have to remove by bit by bit (fig 3).



Fig 3. Wood apple removed as bits

Finally we found that it was an wood apple. Latter when we examined her, no uterine prolapsed was noted. So she was discharged after 5 days.

Discussion

Vaginal foreign bodies can be symptomatic or asymptomatic. When foreign bodies are present for long duration, they may cause various complication like, infection, pelvic peritonitis, abscess, vesico vaginal, recto vaginal fistula, impaction due to scarring and fibrosis[3]. In this case a wood apple was inserted to reduce the prolapsed uterus[4]. Wood apple is common name for several trees with edible fruits. Various other names in English like wood apple, Elephant apple, Monkey fruit and Curd fruit[5]. Vaginal foreign bodies is common in women with prolapsed uterus who are either not fit for surgery or in those who cannot afford for pelvic floor surgery.

In this case, after removal of the foreign body, because of long standing of wood apple in vagina which have caused fibrosis thus prevented further development of prolapsed of uterus.

Conflict of interest

The authors declare that there are no conflict of interest

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