

Congenital peritoneal band: an etiology of small intestine obstruction

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Abstract

Congenital peritoneal band is an exceptional etiology for small bowel obstruction on virgin abdomen especially in the elderly. It is still a diagnosis by elimination.

Herein we present a surgical image of congenital peritoneal band causing small intestine obstruction.

Key-words: Congenital band, small bowel obstruction, Virgin abdomen

Text

Bowel obstruction is a life-threatening emergency implicating prompt recognition and adapted therapeutic measures. Its etiologies varied according to patient's medical and surgical history especially previous abdominal procedures and age [1]. In the elderly with a virgin abdomen, congenital peritoneal band is considered as an exceptional cause for small bowel obstruction remaining a diagnosis by elimination [2]. This image is the illustration of an 81-year-old male with no personal surgical history admitted for obstructive syndrome. An emergent laparotomy was carried out after a brief resuscitation. It showed a distended but non ischemic small intestine upstream a congenital peritoneal band laying between the ileum and the bladder (Figure 1). A section of this band was performed with a retrograde small intestine emptying. The postoperative course was uneventful. Laparoscopy could be an option in favorable conditions: stable patients, non-extremely distended intestine in view of the risk of bowel injury while trocars placement [3]

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