Bouveret's syndrome

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Published online: 1 June 2012

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A 67-year-old male presented to the emergency room with severe upper abdominal pain, distension and vomiting. Computed tomography scan of the abdomen was performed which revealed a large lamellated calculus impacted in the duodenal bulb with severe distension of the stomach containing air fluid level (Fig. 1). The gallbladder contained a calculus and also some air within its lumen (Fig. 2). The diagnosis of Bouveret's syndrome was suggested.

Bouveret's syndrome, gastric outlet obstruction caused by a gallstone which passes into the duodenal bulb through cholecystogastric or cholecystoduodenal fistula, was first described by Léon Bouveret in 1896. It is uncommon phenomenon and

Fig. 1 Axial non contrast CT image through upper abdomen shows a large calculus impacted in the duodenal bulb with severe distension of the stomach. A large air fluid level is seen in the distended stomach

Fig. 2 Axial non contrast CT image at the gallbladder shows a calculus with air in the lumen of gallbladder

previously reported cases were described in elderly females with prior biliary disease [1]. The presence of ectopic gallstone, gastric outlet obstruction and intraluminal air in the gallbladder (suggesting cholecystogastric or cholecystoduodenal fistula) substantiates the diagnosis of Bouveret's syndrome in our case. Computed tomography is the modality of choice for diagnosis. Conservative treatment is helpful in some cases, while endoscopy-guided removal of the stone and surgical correction of fistula may be required in some [2].

References

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