

Laparoscopic Approach of Primary Hydatid Cyst of the Pancreas – Case Report and Literature Review

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Abstract

The pancreatic localization of the hydatid cyst is exceptional, even in countries where hydatid disease is considered endemic.

Case report: We describe a female patient, 63 years old, with hydatid cyst of the pancreas. The diagnosis was difficult because the presentation was that of an epigastric cyst of unknown origin, with no suggestive radiological and ultrasonography features. We performed a laparoscopic exploration of abdominal cavity which revealed a retrogastric cystic mass developed from the pancreatic body. The surgical treatment consisted in puncture, evacuation of proligera, lavage with hypertonic serum, partial excision of the pericyst and drainage of the cavity. The postoperative course was uneventful and the patient was released after 5 days. The follow-up at 6, 12 and 24 months did not show relapse. Through this observation and a review of the literature, we discuss the diagnostic and therapeutic difficulties of this rare localization of the hydatid cyst.

Conclusion: Hydatid cyst is a rare cause of a cystic lesion of the pancreas, especially in endemic areas. Surgery still remains the most effective treatment option. Laparoscopic approach is feasible and secure but requires a trained team with experience in minimally invasive surgery.

Key words: pancreas, hydatid cyst, pancreatic cystic lesions, laparoscopy