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CASE REPORT

Leaking Ectopic Pregnancy Following in Vitro Fertilization with Associated Acute Appendicitis

Grossesse Extra-Utérine Hémorragique après Fécondation In Vitro avec Appendicite Aiguë Associée

¹N. J. Nwashilli, ²Patrick Okonta, ³B. Faleyimu

ABSTRACT

BACKGROUND: Ectopic pregnancy associated with appendicitis is rare, with very few cases reported in the literature. It is unclear if appendicitis is coincidentally associated with ectopic pregnancy or a possible risk factor for the development of ectopic pregnancy. Ruptured ectopic pregnancy has also been postulated as a possible risk factor leading to appendicitis because of the probable inflammatory reaction involving the adjacent appendix.

METHODS: We present a 34-year-old female who presented with right lower abdominal pain and bleeding per vaginam, three weeks after in-vitro fertilization and embryo transfer.

RESULTS: A diagnosis of ectopic pregnancy was made following a positive β -HCG and empty uterine cavity on pelvic ultrasound scan. Intraoperatively, the appendix was noted to be inflamed and it was removed and confirmed on histology examination as acute appendicitis.

CONCLUSION: Ruptured ectopic pregnancy associated with acute appendicitis is rare, with few cases reported in the literature. We recommend an examination for other possible differentials of ruptured ectopic pregnancy like appendicitis during surgery for ectopic pregnancy on the right side.

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KEYWORDS: Leaking ectopic pregnancy, Appendicitis, In-vitro fertilization, Laparotomy

RÉSUMÉ

CONTEXTE: L'association de la grossesse extra-utérine avec l'appendicite est rare, avec très peu de cas rapportés dans la littérature. Il n'est pas clair si l'appendicite est associée de manière fortuite à la grossesse extra-utérine ou si elle constitue un facteur de risque possible pour le développement de celle-ci. On a également postulé que la grossesse extra-utérine rompue pourrait être un facteur de risque conduisant à l'appendicite en raison de la probable réaction inflammatoire impliquant l'appendice adjacent.

MÉTHODES: Nous présentons le cas d'une femme de 34 ans qui s'est présentée avec une douleur abdominale basse à droite et des saignements vaginaux, trois semaines après une fécondation in vitro et un transfert d'embryon.

RÉSULTATS: Un diagnostic de grossesse extra-utérine a été posé suite à un test de β -HCG positif et une cavité utérine vide à l'échographie pelvienne. En peropératoire, l'appendice a été noté comme étant inflammé et a été retiré. L'examen histologique a confirmé une appendicite aiguë.

CONCLUSION: La grossesse extra-utérine rompue associée à une appendicite aiguë est rare, avec quelques cas rapportés dans la littérature. Nous recommandons un examen pour d'autres diagnostics différentiels possibles de la grossesse extra-utérine rompue, comme l'appendicite, lors de la chirurgie pour grossesse extra-utérine du côté droit. WAJM 2024; 41 (4): 485 - 488.

MOTS CLÉS: Grossesse extra-utérine hémorragique, Appendicite, Fécondation in vitro, Laparotomie

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