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Developing Sigmoid Volvulus after medical disimpaction of a patient with stool impaction: A Case report

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Stool impaction which is common in the elderly has a range of potential complications. Treating it with medical disimpaction carries potential complications as well. We present an 80 year old lady bedridden and non communicating with Advanced dementia who presented with stool impaction and admitted for disimpaction. After ten days of proximal softening with distal washout therapy the patient deteriorated and found clinically and radiologically to have Sigmoid Volvulus, that was successfully managed by decompression colonoscopy. We believe the logical explanation of this scenario is that our proximal softening with distal washout therapy has pushed the stool to the redundant sigmoid Colon of this elder patient. That caused the colon to twist and resulted in sigmoid volvulus. We also present a literature review of the complications of stool impaction, the complications of Enemas, relevant published Cases and Guidelines of palliative constipation management in the Elderly.

Biography

Adil Alharthi is a Consultant Internist and head of internal medicine Division at King Fahad Armed Forces Hospital (KFAFH) Jeddah.

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