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Spontaneous pneumoperitoneum-role of diagnostic laparoscopy case report

Objective: Spontaneous pneumoperitoneum is a rare condition. It presents a challenge to the surgeon as the clinical presentation and radiological findings mimic perforated viscus resulting in unnecessary surgical intervention. The aim of this article is to describe a case of a spontaneous pneumoperitoneum in an elderly patient who underwent diagnostic

Methods: A 77-year-old female with multiple comorbidities presented to the emergency department with productive cough, shortness of breath, vomiting and abdominal pain. On examination she had tenderness in epigastric region. Chest X-ray and CT showed free air and fluid in peritoneal cavity.

Results: The patient underwent diagnostic laparoscopy that did not reveal any gastrointestinal perforation

Conclusion: Spontaneous pneumoperitoneum is frequently mistaken for perforated viscus. If the patient presents with features of peritonitis, diagnostic laparoscopy has a vital role as it prevents unnecessary midline laparotomy.

Biography

Syed Muhammad Ali is a Consultant General Surgeon in Hamad Medical Corporation and Assistant Professor in Clinical Surgery in Weill Cornell Medical School in Qatar. He graduated from Sindh Medical College, Karachi, Pakistan with honours and finished his residency in General Surgery from Jinnah Postgraduate Medical Centre, Karachi. He earned his fellowship in General Surgery from College of Physicians and Surgeons, Pakistan and worked as Assistant Professor in Surgery in Baqai Medical University, Pakistan. He is a member of Royal College of Surgeons, England and holds the fellowship in General Surgery from Royal College of Surgeons, Edinburgh. He got his fellowship in Colorectal Surgery from European Board of Medical Specialties. He is also a fellow of American College of Surgeons. He has interest in rectal cancers and fistula in and along with hernia surgery. He has many publications under his name and reviewer of many journals.

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