Case Report

A RARE CASE REPORT OF POST CESAREAN UTERINE INCISIONAL NECROSIS COEXISTANT WITH OGILVIE SYNDROME

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ABSTRACT
Here we report a case of uterine incisional necrosis which is a rare complicate of cesarean section. A 35 years old multiparous woman was referred to a central hospital due to post cesarean eclampsia. She exhibited fever non responsive to wide spectrum antibiotics with normal image except of pleural effusion. One to late postpartum hemorrhage and severe abdominal distention she operated again and hysterectomy was done due to surgical finding of uterine incisional necrosis. Abdominal distention progressed again fulfilling ogilvie syndrome criteria result in next surgery and cecostomy. In difficult post operative period she did not survived. Uterine incision necrosis should be considered in severe cases of post partum hemorrhage and infection.

Keywords: Necrosis, Colonic Pseudo-Obstruction, Postoperative Hemorrhage, Fever

INTRODUCTION
Uterine incisional necrosis is determined as surgical observation as histopathologic definition of separation in necrosis of cesarean incision (Rivlin et al., 2004). This entity is a rare condition. We describe here a patient with post cesarean incisional necrosis coexistant with hemorrhage and Ogilvie syndrome.

CASES
A 35 years old multiparous woman was referred to a central hospital due to eclampsia 12 hours after cesarean section. She was alert in admition with stable vital signs Blood pressure was 140/100 and there was no neurologic abnormality. Brain CT scan was normal. The patient showed an episode of dyspnea and chest pain 2 days after primary operation. Sub specially heart and lung consultation requested chest x Ray and lower extremity color flow Doppler which were normal. From the day 3 of the operation, she was febrile and tachycardia wide range antibiotic therapy was started normal pelvic and abdominal computed tomographic scan (CTscan) was done following hematoma, septic trombophlebitis and incisional necrosis. Pulmonary CT scan revealed bilateral pleural effusion fever and tachycardia continued. In the day 7 she was transferred to intensive care unit and hemoglobin fall was observed. Normal cardiac echocardiography was done for infectious endocarditis. From the day 8 abdominal distention was added to fever, tachycardia, and pleural effusion. Abdominal distention was progressive and non responsive to conservation management. In the day 13 an episode of sever vaginal bleeding with increasing abdominal distention and $8 \times 6 \text{ cm}$ hematoma besides cervix and hemoglobin fall resulted in decision for laparatomy.
Case Report

Surgical finding of uterine incision necrosis guided to hysterectomy. Uncontrolled oozing of the pelvic obligated pelvic packing. General surgeon decompressed distended bowel loops and rectal tube was placed under direct view. Packed long guases were removed 2 days later. She remained in ICU under assisted respiration without extubation. She needed intermittent hemodialysis and 14 days after re-operation tracheostomy was performed. In the day 28 abdominal distention was progression again fulfilling Ogilvie syndrome criteria with 25 cm with of the cecum. She was operated again and cecostomy was performed. Due to necrosis of fasica, it was hold open. Patient was intermittantly under hemodialysis, abdominal washing, and respiratory assistance in ICU. In the day 68 of the primary surgery sever pulmonary dystress resulted in cardiopulmonary assest and unsuccessful resuscitation.

DISCUSSION

Review of literature introduce infection and mechanic-technical factors include hematoma as the most common causes of incisional necrosis (Rivlin et al., 2004). Hematoma formation in the cesarean incison might result in bacterial infection (Rivlin et al., 2004). "Maldjian" has reported 5 incisional separation, diagnosed by magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) besides to a hematoma in 4 out of 5 cases (Maldjian et al., 1998). Location of incision close to cervix which is less vascular increase probability of the necrosis (Heys, 1963; Ross and Galliford, 1974). "Faro" reported disapearing lower segment of the uterus in severe cases, with connection of cervix to body in posterior part (Faro, 1997).

In a case report of incisional necrosis, repair of incision was done using chromic catgut material (Wagner and Bedard, 2006). In most of the European and Japanise countries, catgut is omitted from the market. Superiority of catgut is mainly in low cost and is predicted to be completely abandoned in the near future (Rock, 2011). In this case chromic catgut was used for uterine repair. Some authorities consider it as out of date material (Rock, 2011), although is not illegal (Chunningham et al., 2010).

In the present case, primary post cesarean imaging (day 3). Including ultrasonography and CT scan did not reveal hematoma formation. In the day 13 repeat sonography showed large hematoma (8 cm) besides cervix. Surgical findings confirmed low incision, although due to complete necrosis, careful judgment was not possible.

Exact risk factors for this complication are not known. Review of literature mention to risk factors such as infection, emergency surgery, diabetes, nuliparity, very low uterine incision, multiparity, malnutrition, old age, immunsuppresion and obesity (Rivlin et al., 2004; Heys, 1963; Ross and Galliford, 1974; Wagner and Bedard, 2006; Intaraprasert and Siwawej, 1984; Burke and Gallup, 2003). In this case infection, multiparity, emergency surgery, eclampsia and old age were present.

Risk factors of incisional necrosis seem to be the same as post cesarean infections conditions (Rivlin et al., 2004). "Faro" describes pathophysiology as infected hematoma resulting in abscess formation and necrosis of the incision (Faro, 1997). In a study 54 case of infection following cesarean non-responsive to wide spectrum antibiotics were studied by CT scan. Five out of 54 cases revealed incisional necrosis (Brown et al., 1991). In our case, she was afebrile at first and fever non- responsive to antibiotics was detectable from day 3. In day 13 severe late post-partum hemorrhage happened.

"Faro" believed in bimanual pelvic examination to be helpful to diagnose this entity by direct exam of the defect (Faro, 1997). Some authors consider definite diagnosis just by surgical findings (Rivlin et al., 2003). Late post partum bleeding with unknown etiology is reported in some case reports of ceterine incisinal necrosis (Rivlin et al., 1984).

Diagnostic value of CT scan in puerperal infectious complications specially pelvic abscess, septic thrombophlebitis is useful. However, diagnostic efficacy of uterine incisional necrosis is not enough (Brown et al., 1991; Twickler et al., 1991). "Maldjian" mentioned to MRI as a better modality in comparison to CT scan in diagnosis of uterine necrosis (Rivlin et al., 2004; Maldjian et al., 1998). Some other studies are in favor of diagnostic value MRI and surgical findings and not CT scan (Brown et al., 1991; Twickler et al., 1991). In the present case, CT scan in day 3 was not helpful and diagnosis was made in re-operation in day 14. Incisional necrosis might be more common due to undiagnosed cases (Intaraprasert and Siwawej, 1984).
Case Report

Severe late postpartum hemorrhage might be the presenting symptom 11 days to 12 weeks after primary surgery (Baba et al., 2005), as our case. Pleural effusion was detected in 3 out of 20 studied cases of incisional necrosis (Rivlin et al., 2013). In our case pleural effusion was present from day 3-4. Presentation symptoms, signs and paraclinical findings of case reports are summarized in table I. Incisional necrosis should be considered as a rare etiology of severe postpartum bleeding. Some mild cases might remain undiagnosed (Ross and Galliford, 1974; Keane, 1973; Kindig et al., 1998). Case of such bleeding is probably necrosis of uterine vessels. Pattern of bleeding is painless, intermittent sometimes with few weeks interval, from days 7 to 28 after surgery (Keane, 1973). In all cases of severe postpartum bleeding after cesarean section uterine incisional defect should be evaluated (Heys, 1963). Abdominal distention is reported in incisional necrosis cases (table I). In sever situations called as Ogilvie syndrome, bowel distension is severing and there is no obstruction. Ogilvie syndrome is a rare complication of surgery and cesarean (Kotsev, 2011). Diagnosis is clinical. Treatment is based on the severity. In less than 9-10 cm dilatation of the cecum, non-surgical management and in more dilatation, colonoscopic decompression and rectal tube and sometimes cecostomy are useful (Kotsev, 2011).

Bowel distention presenting in incisional necrosis are reported in 3 case reports (Rivlin et al., 2013) and our case. In the present case, abdominal distention was sever up to 25 cm diameter of cecum and fulfilled criteria of Ogilvie syndrome, resulting in cecustomy by laparotomy.

Table I: Summary of incisional necrosis case presentations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Number of cases/time</th>
<th>Symptoms</th>
<th>Signs</th>
<th>Paraclinical Findings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dhar and Misra (2012)</td>
<td>1 (week 10)</td>
<td>Abdominal tenderness bleeding</td>
<td>- vaginal bleeding, - pelvic pain, - dysmenorrhea, - intermenstrual bleeding</td>
<td>- hematomas, - intermenstrual bleeding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wagner et al., (2006)</td>
<td>1 Day 43</td>
<td>Severe vaginal bleeding</td>
<td>Abdominal tenderness bleeding</td>
<td>- hemoglobin drop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arab et al., (2014) [present case]</td>
<td>1 Day 13</td>
<td>- bleeding, - fever</td>
<td>- fever</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- pleural effusion, - abdominal distention</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- hemoglobin drop</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Incisional necrosis is treated by hysterectomy (Wagner and Bedard, 2006; Sengupta and Misra, 2012) and it was done in our patient. In most case reports of in contrast to our case, patients survived after surgery. Probable etiology of her mortality might be severity of condition, coexisting eclampsia, Ogilvie syndrome, several operations and prolonged sepsis. In conclusion incisional necrosis, although rare, should be considered in late cesarean bleeding and infection especially with history of risk factors. In seems reasonable that many case not sever enough to be operated, are not diagnosed.
Case Report

REFERENCES


