

Renal Colic with a Twist – A Rare Presentation of OHSS with Ureteral Mass Effect.

This case explores a case of ovarian hyperstimulation syndrome (OHSS), with extrinsic ureteric compression secondary to enlarged ovary.

Background

A 41-year-old female presented four days post-egg retrieval with gradual worsening crampy, sharp left iliac fossa pain, most pronounced after voiding. The remainder of her clinical history and examination were in keeping with moderate OHSS.

Potentially explaining her colic-like pain, pelvic ultrasound and subsequent CT demonstrated bilateral ovarian enlargement with multiple follicles up to 62mm, with the left ovary (128x63x59mm) compressing the left pelvic ureter and corresponding hydronephrosis. Creatinine was mildly elevated and in consultation with Urology a plan was made for ongoing observation with supportive treatment only.

Discussion

Independently OHSS poses risk of acute renal injury through distributive/ circulatory changes, however this case considers the added risk of post-renal injury in OHSS. Management of moderate OHSS typically involves supportive care, but the added complexity of ureteral compression required careful follow-up and monitoring of renal function.

Iatrogenic ureteral injury caused by the aspiration needle during retrieval is far more commonly described as a risk in IVF treatment. Ureteric compression, however, is rarely considered. Risk factors for this complication include pre-existing pelvic adhesions and anatomical variations in ureteral position. Although the scarcity of published case studies indicates its rarity, catastrophic outcomes have been described to the extreme of renal rupture and involvement of bilateral ureters. Thus, Urology colleagues should be involved with consideration of stenting where necessary.

Fig 1. Left ovarian hyperstimulation

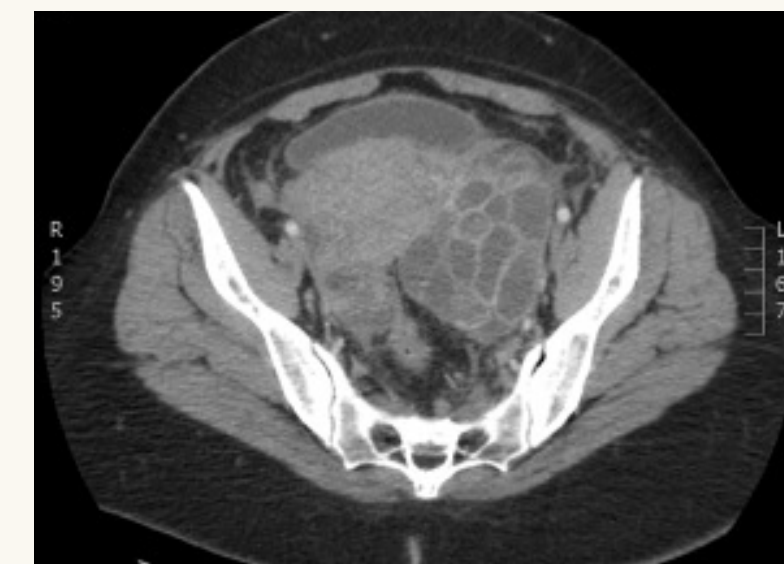


Fig 2. Dilation to left renal calyx



This case highlights the rare risk of ureteral compression in OHSS, with early recognition essential to mitigate significant adverse outcomes.

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