

Ectopic Ileal Varices Diagnosed by Bleeding Scan and Wireless Capsule Endoscopy

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Purpose: Ectopic varices are an unusual cause of gastrointestinal bleeding; it accounts for 1-5% of all variceal bleeding. We report a case of ectopic ileal varices presented as obscure gastrointestinal bleeding. The diagnosis was clinically suspected, supported by bleeding scan and wireless capsule endoscopy, and confirmed on surgery. Case Report: A 56-year-old woman with history of HIV and Hep C cirrhosis was admitted to our hospital with painless hematochezia. Her past medical history was significant for esophageal variceal band ligation 1 year ago and Total Abdominal Hysterectomy and Bilateral Salpingo Oophorectomy (TAH-BSO) 9 years ago. Upper endoscopy, colonoscopy, and enteroscopy did not reveal the source of GI bleeding. CT abdomen revealed dilated mesenteric veins. Due to poor renal function, mesenteric angiogram could not be performed. Subsequent bleeding scan was positive for extravasation in the right lower quadrant. This finding was further supported by wireless capsule endoscopy, which showed questionable submucosal vessel in distal ileum with fresh blood clot. Based on these findings, patient underwent exploratory laparotomy which confirmed ileal varices as source of obscure GI bleeding. 12 inches of distal ileum were resected. Unfortunately, patient progressed into hepatorenal syndrome and expired postop day 4. This case report highlights the importance of clinical suspicion, bleeding scan, and wireless capsule endoscopy in the diagnosis of obscure GI bleeding secondary to ectopic ileal varices.

Methods: NA

Results: NA

Conclusion: NA