Case Report

A Rare Intra-Operative Sighting of Appendiceal Diverticulitis

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ABSTRACT

Appendiceal diverticulitis is a rare diagnosis and culprit for acute appendicitis. The majority of these cases are diagnosed post-operatively on histopathology. In the following case it was grossly identifiable intra-operatively. Our treatment was appendicectomy. The purpose of this article was to provide pictorial evidence of this exceedingly rare intra-operative finding.

Case Description

A 25-year-old female presented with a 4-day history of lower abdominal pain, accompanied by nausea and anorexia. On examination, she was tender in the right iliac fossa and guarding was present. Blood tests revealed raised inflammatory markers. The patient underwent diagnostic laparoscopy, which revealed an oedematous appendix with an injected serosa. Multiple diverticulae were visible along its surface (Figure 1). Appendicectomy was performed accordingly. Histopathological analysis confirmed a diagnosis of appendiceal diverticulitis. Her recovery was uneventful.

Figure 1: Gross appendiceal diverticulae detected intra-operatively.

Learning Points

i. Appendiceal diverticulitis is a rare but important clinical diagnosis the clinician should be aware of.

ii. It carries an early and higher rate of perforation compared to acute appendicitis.

Conflicts of Interest

None.

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