

A case of double intussusception in a five month old male infant

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Summary

A five month old male infant with double intussusception, illeocecal and colo-colic, is presented. Double intussusception were treated successfully by reducing the masses manually.

Key words: Double intussusception, pediatric surgery

Introduction

Intussusception is a common entity in infancy and childhood but multiple intussusceptions are rare (1,2,3).

A five month old male infant with double intussusception, ileo-cecal and colo-colic is presented. We were unable to find a similar case in the literature.

Case Report

A five month old male baby was admitted with a history of severe abdominal pain, restlessness, vomiting for fourteen hours. There was no previous history like that on admission, dehydration and lethargy were detected. Physical examination revealed that the existency of a smooth, round and mobile mass of 6x8x8 cm in diameters in the left iliac fossa.

Rectal examination revealed a strawberry-jelly like haemorrhage. Direct abdominal x-rays showed dilated intestinal loops in the left, and no intestinal gas in the right abdominal cavity. There were no gas-fluid levels (Fig. 1).

Following the preoperative preparation a left sub-umbilical incision was made because of a palpable mass localized in the left iliac fossa. Laparotomy proved that the existency of two separate intussusception, one being a colocolic intussusception be-

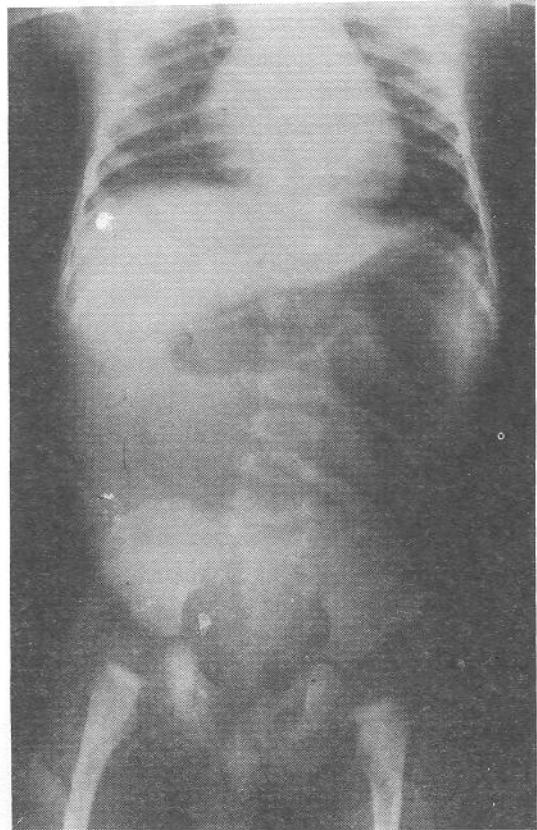


Figure 1. Preoperative abdominal roentgenogram of the patient in upright position.

tween the descending colon and the sigmoid colon measuring 8X6X8 cm in diameters, the other being an ileo-caecal intussusception including the appendix and a part of the caecum (Fig. 2). The intussuscepted masses were reduced manually and appendicectomy was performed.

The patient had an uneventful recovery and was discharged on the seventh postoperative day. Barium enema of the colon was performed one month later. Two intussusception area of the colon can be remarkable in the figure 3.

Discussion

While single and antegrade intussusceptions are quite common in childhood, multiple and com-

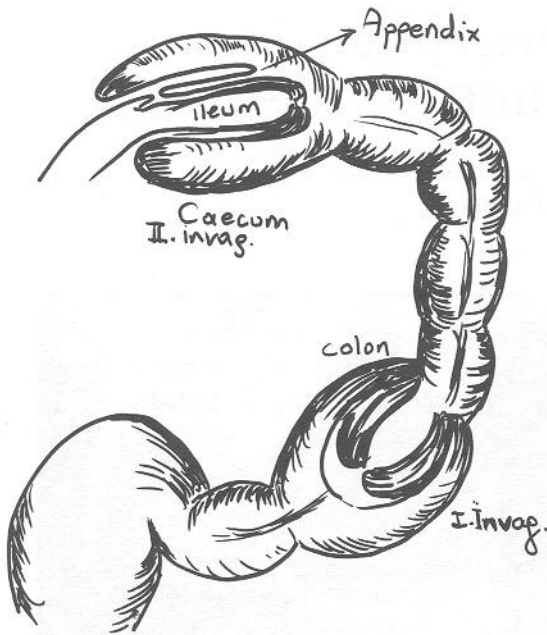


Figure 2. Schematic drawing of the ileocaecal and colo-colic double intussusception.

Compound intussusceptions are believed to be extremely rare (1-5). Mustafa (6), in 1976 reported a double intussusception of small bowel through a patent vitello-intestinal duct, a similar presentation as that of Soutar (7) in 1958. However, both of these cases were in newborn babies with congenital vitello-intestinal ducts. In 1969 Baumgartner (1), reported a case of multiple intussusception associated with lipomatoses and multiple diverticulae. Gough (2), Zorludemir (9) reported a case of six separate and two separate intussusception due to a bezoar and blunt abdominal trauma respectively. Very few cases of multiple intussusceptions reported up-to-date are due to lipomas, bezoars or similar causes. Kochhar (6) in 1988 reported two times endoscopic reduction in a patient with jejuno-gastri intussusception.

On the other hand, as in our case, there are sometimes no established causes. For this reason the case can be termed as "idiopathic double intussusception", as we were unable to find a similar case in the literature.

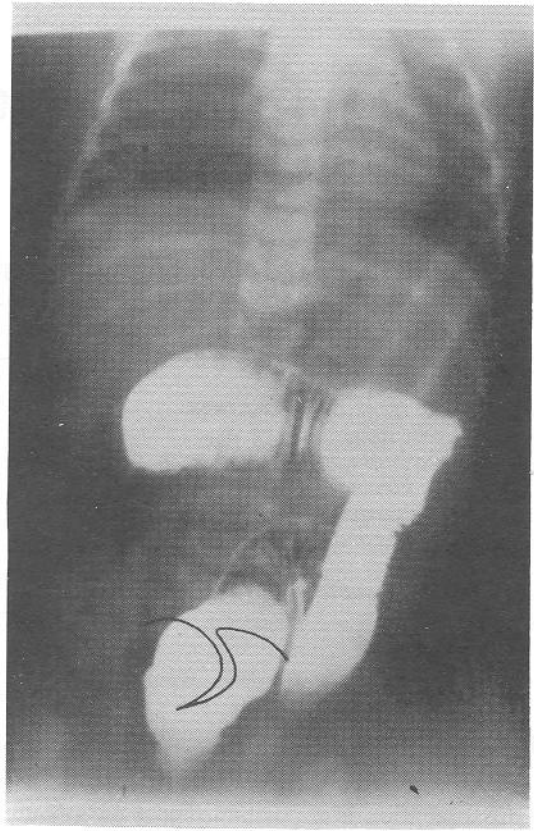


Figure 3. Barium enema of the colon one month after the operation.

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