

Clinical-Medical Image

A Case of a Giant Appendicolith

Nuno Carvalho^{1,2*}, Filipe Borges^{1,2}, and Paulo Costa^{1,2}

¹Serviço Cirurgia Geral, Hospital Garcia de Orta, Almada, Portugal

²Faculdade de Medicina, Universidade de Lisboa, Portugal

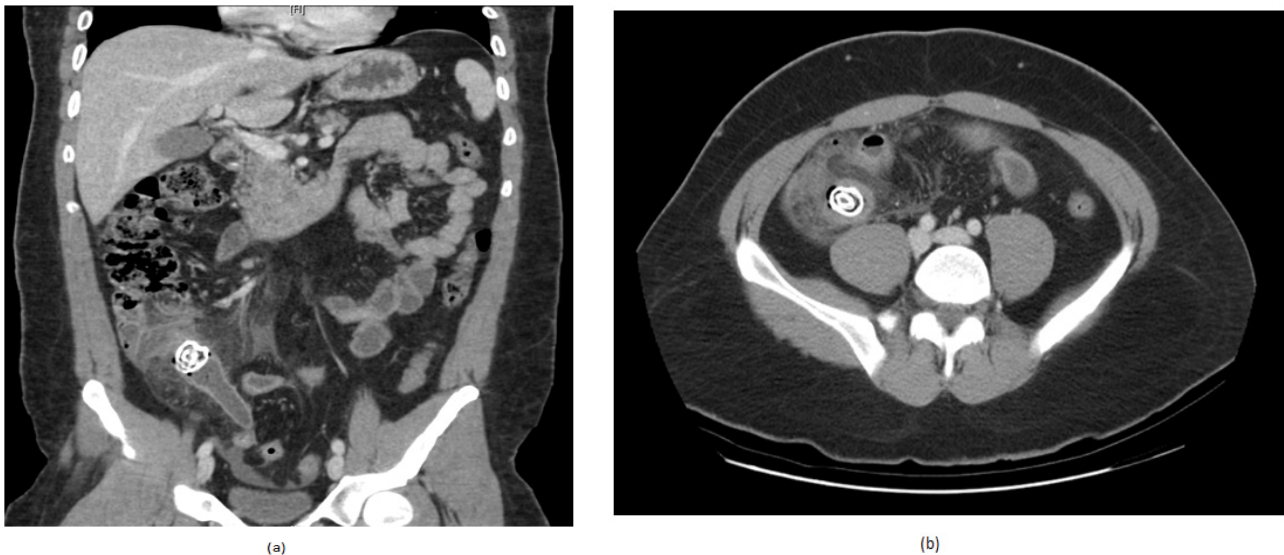


Figure 1: (a) Calcification and laminar structure in an inflamed appendix. Coronal view (b) Axial view.

Clinical Image

A 33-year-old male was admitted in the emergency department with generalized abdominal pain for 3 days. No other complaints. Past medical history was unremarkable. Vital signs were normal. Subtle tenderness was present at lower abdominal quadrants. Laboratory: CRP of 7 mg/dL (Normal < 0,1 mg/dL), leucocyte count of 18,000 cells/mm³ (Normal: 4000-10000 cells/mm³). A CT scan showed an appendicolith with 26 × 21 mm (Figure 1a and 1b). At laparoscopy a gangrenous perforated appendicitis with localized peritonitis was found. An uneventful appendectomy was performed.

Microbiology showed *E. coli*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *Enterococcus faecalis* and *Streptococcus viridans*. The patient was discharged 5 days later.

Appendicoliths are a rare etiological factor of appendicitis [1]. They are formed by conglomerates of fecal matter with mineral deposits [2]. These may present with homogeneous or laminated calcification. Giant appendicoliths (> 2 cm) are very rare, the largest one as 3 × 2.5 cm. To our knowledge only twelve cases were reported in the literature [3,4].

Keywords: CT scan; Leucocyte; Appendicoliths

Declaration of Interests

The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

References

- [1] Khan M, Chaudhry M, Shahzad N (2018) Risk of appendicitis in patients with incidentally discovered appendicolith. *J Surg Res.* 224: 84-87.
- [2] González Chávez AM, Huacuja Blanco RR, González Chávez MA (2017) Giant appendicolith in acute exacerbation of chronic appendicitis: A case report and literature review. *Surg Sci.* 8: 457-463.
- [3] Athawale HR, Vageriya N, Dhende NP (2016) Giant appendicolith mimicking as foreign body: A case report. *J Ped Surg Case Rep.* 4: 54-57.
- [4] Pahissa RA, Lin-Hurtubise KM (2020) Giant Appendicolith: A case report and review of the literature. *Mil Med.* 185: 9-10.

*Corresponding author: Nuno Carvalho, Serviço Cirurgia Geral, Hospital Garcia de Orta, Almada, Portugal and Faculdade de Medicina, Universidade de Lisboa, Portugal, Tel: 351915901446; E-mail: nunomcarvalho1964@gmail.com

Citation: Carvalho N, Borges F, Costa P (2021) A Case of a Giant Appendicolith. *Int J Clin Med Imaging* 8: 734.

Copyright: © 2021 Carvalho N, et al. This is an open-access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License, which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited.