

Splenic Artery Aneurysms: A Rare, Insidious Cause of Abdominal Pain

Authors : Christopher Oyediran, Nicola Ubayasiri, Christopher Gough

Abstract : Splenic artery aneurysms are often clinically occult, occasionally identified incidentally with imaging. The pathogenesis of aneurysms is complex, but certain factors are thought to contribute to their development. Given the potential fatal complications of rupture, a high index of suspicion is required to make an early diagnosis. We present a case of a 36-year-old female with a history of endometriosis and multiple sclerosis who presented to the Emergency Department with sudden onset epigastric pain and collapse. On arrival, she was pale and clammy with profound tachycardia and hypotension. An ultrasound done in the resuscitation department revealed abdominal free fluid. She was resuscitated with blood and transferred for emergent laparotomy. Laparotomy revealed massive haemoperitoneum from the spleen. She underwent emergency splenectomy and inspection of the spleen revealed a splenic artery aneurysm. She received our massive transfusion protocol followed by a short stay on ITU, making a good post-operative recovery and was discharged home a week later.

Keywords : aneurysm, human chorionic gonadotrophin (hCG), resuscitation, laparotomy

Conference Title : ICEM 2015 : International Conference on Emergency Medicine

Conference Location : London, United Kingdom

Conference Dates : February 16-17, 2015