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Whole colon mobility with cecocolic volvulus and literature review

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Volvulus refers to torsion of a segment of the alimentary tract, which often leads to bowel obstruction. The most common sites of volvulus are the sigmoid colon and caecum. Volvulus of other portions of the alimentary tract, such as the stomach, gallbladder, small bowel, splenic flexure and transverse colon are rare. Patients with a caecal volvulus are young, with a mean age varying from 33 years in India to 53 years in Western countries. In contrast, sigmoid volvulus usually occurs in elderly subjects with chronic constipation or distal colon obstruction. The common presentations are colicky abdominal pain, abdominal distention, constipation/ obstipation and depending on vascular status, the patient may be febrile and tachycardic. Here I present a case of cecocolic volvulus involving cecum, ascending colon, transverse colon and distal ilium in a 13 years old girl after she presented with colicky abdominal pain, distension, failure to pass feces and flatus for 3 days. She had also previous history of similar complaint but was self-limiting. She was febrile and tachycardic. Diagnosis was made by plain abdominal x-ray which showed air fluid level. She was prepared and operated and intraoperative finding was 360 degree clockwise rotated right colon and transverse colon along its mesentery which was ischemic and the whole large bowel was mobile and redundant with its own long mesentery. We extended right hemicolectomy and iliotransverse anastomosis. The patient was followed for 1 week in the ward and discharge improved. Now she is being followed in the surgical referral clinic. Details of the pathology, diagnosis and management will be discussed.

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Use of juvenile animal studies to support oncology medicine development in children

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When planning the pediatric development of any pharmaceutical, aspects that need to be taken into consideration include the understanding of potential for modified sensitivity vs. adults, unique toxicities or potential for effects on organ development. The need for early consideration of children has led to an increased focus on the relevance of nonclinical studies in juvenile animals (JAS). The immaturity of the developing organ may increase the potential for new target organs, modified activity or greater toxicity than has previously been seen in adults. While needing to screen for potential safety concerns associated to medicines use in children, avoiding useless studies and animal protection principles are strongly taken into consideration also. The need for animal studies for oncology drugs is in general a matter of controversy in particular for the most severe forms and the experience for JAS in advanced cancer patients is of importance. We intend to present a revision of results collected during the development of oncology pediatric medicines, towards pediatric use and build up the experience on utility of JAS. Also, a critical analysis of nonclinical information on all approved European Public Assessment Reports (EPARs: 1995–2014) concerning existence of JAS, pediatric therapeutic indication, and species and data from JAS in the nonclinical information on all approved pediatric investigation plans (PIPs) to support an indication in pediatric population (2007-2014). Further emphasis is placed on nonclinical support where PIPs refers to neonates and infants and the usefulness of such studies especially for tumors leading to short life expectancy.

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