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Intussusception of terminal ileum into cecum associated with endometriosis

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Intussusception, the invagination or telescoping of a segment of bowel into an adjacent one, predominantly affects children, but adult cases are rare, comprising only 5% of total incidences, with 1% resulting in intestinal obstruction. Conversely, endometriosis, characterised by the presence of extra-uterine cavity endometrial tissue, affects up to 20% of women of childbearing age, with ileal involvement being uncommon, occurring in 3–18% of cases. While appendiceal and bowel intussusception caused by endometriosis have been documented, instances of terminal ileal intussusception associated with endometriosis are exceedingly rare. We present the case of a 26-year-old nulliparous female presenting with acute small bowel obstruction secondary to intussusception of the terminal ileum into the caecum, associated with endometriosis. Laparoscopically assisted right hemicolectomy was performed, revealing incidental endometriosis findings. Although the association between endometriosis and intussusception is uncommon, clinicians should consider asymptomatic endometriosis in menstruating females presenting with abdominal symptoms. CT imaging is recommended for diagnosis and localisation of intussusception, and surgical intervention is crucial due to potential malignant implications. This case underscores the importance of recognizing rare presentations of endometriosis and highlights the necessity of prompt surgical management for adult intussusception, especially when associated with suspected pathology.

Biography

Dr. Xin Yi Goai is a dedicated General Surgery Registrar with interests in gastrointestinal surgery and trauma management. With a Master of Surgery from the University of Sydney and a MBBS (Honours) from Monash University, she has honed her skills through diverse clinical experiences. Dr. Goai's commitment to advancing surgical knowledge is evident through her publications in reputable journals and presentations at medical conferences. She actively contributes to medical education, serving as a tutor and mentor. Her passion for excellence in patient care and surgical innovation drives her to continually strive for the highest standards in surgical practice.