

Failure of partial splenectomy to treat splenic ectopic pregnancy

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Abstract

Primary splenic ectopic pregnancies are extremely rare and difficult to diagnose. To our knowledge only 24 published cases exist since 1970. The majority required a total splenectomy for treatment. Two cases were managed conservatively with methotrexate injections, and one was successfully treated with a partial splenectomy only. We present a case of a 31 year old female in which an initial partial splenectomy was unsuccessful in removing the ectopic pregnancy. Due to rising postoperative b-HCG levels, a CT and USS confirmed that the ectopic pregnancy had been left in the remaining spleen. She was taken to theatre again where a total laparoscopic splenectomy was performed. Her recovery was uneventful. Due to the rarity of splenic ectopic pregnancies, and the difficulty in visualising ectopic tissue on a spleen, particularly in the presence of haemoperitoneum, we recommend that surgeons performing a partial splenectomy should confirm the presence of fetal tissue with a pathology service during the intraoperative period.



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Biography:

Ka Geen Cheung is a general surgical registrar in Australia. She is currently employed at Greenslopes Private Hospital, and presented on multiple topics in general surgery.

Speaker Publications:

1. Journal of Ophthalmology & Visual Neurosciences Palytoxin Exposure Causing Prolonged Conjunctivitis and Episcleritis without Corneal Involvement
2. Rats with a missense mutation in Atm display neuroinflammation and neurodegeneration subsequent to accumulation of cytosolic DNA following unrepaired DNA damage
3. A rat model of ataxia-telangiectasia: evidence for a neurodegenerative phenotype