Gartner duct cyst in pregnancy presenting as a prolapsing pelvic mass

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Received 12 May 2007; received in revised form 15 August 2007; accepted 28 August 2007

ABSTRACT

Gartner duct cysts are the remnants of the Wolffian duct and they are rarely seen in adulthood. We present a case of a pregnant patient with a prolapsing vaginal mass. A diagnosis of Gartner duct cyst was made after MRI was performed. The Gartner duct cyst was drained when the patient went into labour allowing vaginal delivery to be performed. © 2007 Biomedical Imaging and Intervention Journal. All rights reserved.

Keywords: Gartner duct cysts; Wolffian duct; magnetic resonance imaging

CASE REPORT

A 30-year-old primigravida was seen at 27 weeks of pregnancy for a routine check up. Antenatal ultrasound showed a single intra uterine pregnancy and a cystic structure in the pelvis, which was diagnosed as an ovarian cyst in pregnancy. A repeat ultrasound at the authors’ hospital confirmed a single viable foetus in cephalic presentation. There was a cystic mass measuring 7.8 cm x 7.4 cm x 5.9 cm in the left adnexa, which was diagnosed to be an ovarian cyst. During the 36th week of pregnancy, the patient felt a mass descending from her vagina on straining at micturition and defecation.

A digital and speculum examination of the vagina revealed a cystic swelling measuring 7 cm in size that had a stalk attached to the left vaginal wall, displacing the cervix to the right side. Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) of the pelvis was performed and revealed a mass in the left lateral vaginal fornix. This mass was homogenous and returned low signal on T1-weighted and high signal on T2- weighted images, consistent with a cyst. The mass extended into the pelvis and measured 8 cm x 3.6 cm x 6.2 cm. The gravid uterus and cervix were displaced superiorly (Figures 1 to 3). No other pelvic masses were seen.

In view of the imaging and clinical findings, a diagnosis of Gartner duct cyst in pregnancy was made.

At 39 weeks of pregnancy, the patient went into labour and under epidural anaesthesia, aspiration of the Gartner duct cyst produced 60 ml of clear fluid. Delivery was then induced. The baby was delivered with vacuum assistance due to poor maternal effort. The cyst fluid was...