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ЕЖЕМЕСЯЧНЫЙ НАУЧНЫЙ ЖУРНАЛ

Медицинские новости Грузии
საქართველოს სამედიცინო სიახლენი

GEORGIAN MEDICAL NEWS

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GMN: Georgian Medical News is peer-reviewed, published monthly journal committed to promoting the science and art of medicine and the betterment of public health, published by the GMN Editorial Board since 1994. GMN carries original scientific articles on medicine, biology and pharmacy, which are of experimental, theoretical and practical character; publishes original research, reviews, commentaries, editorials, essays, medical news, and correspondence in English and Russian.

GMN is indexed in MEDLINE, SCOPUS, PubMed and VINITI Russian Academy of Sciences. The full text content is available through EBSCO databases.

GMN: Медицинские новости Грузии - ежемесячный рецензируемый научный журнал, издаётся Редакционной коллегией с 1994 года на русском и английском языках в целях поддержки медицинской науки и улучшения здравоохранения. В журнале публикуются оригинальные научные статьи в области медицины, биологии и фармации, статьи обзорного характера, научные сообщения, новости медицины и здравоохранения. Журнал индексируется в MEDLINE, отражён в базе данных SCOPUS, PubMed и ВИНТИ РАН. Полнотекстовые статьи журнала доступны через БД EBSCO.

GMN: Georgian Medical News – საქართველოს სამედიცინო სიახლენი – არის ყოველთვიური სამეცნიერო სამედიცინო რეცენზირებადი ჟურნალი, გამოიცემა 1994 წლიდან, წარმოადგენს სარედაქციო კოლეგიისა და აშშ-ის მეცნიერების, განათლების, ინდუსტრიის, ხელოვნებისა და ბუნებისმეტყველების საერთაშორისო აკადემიის ერთობლივ გამოცემას. GMN-ში რუსულ და ინგლისურ ენებზე ქვეყნდება ექსპერიმენტული, თეორიული და პრაქტიკული ხასიათის ორიგინალური სამეცნიერო სტატიები მედიცინის, ბიოლოგიისა და ფარმაციის სფეროში, მიმოხილვითი ხასიათის სტატიები.

ჟურნალი ინდექსირებულია MEDLINE-ის საერთაშორისო სისტემაში, ასახულია SCOPUS-ის, PubMed-ის და ВИНТИ РАН-ის მონაცემთა ბაზებში. სტატიების სრული ტექსტი ხელმისაწვდომია EBSCO-ს მონაცემთა ბაზებიდან.

WEBSITE

www.geomednews.com

К СВЕДЕНИЮ АВТОРОВ!

При направлении статьи в редакцию необходимо соблюдать следующие правила:

1. Статья должна быть представлена в двух экземплярах, на русском или английском языках, напечатанная через **полтора интервала на одной стороне стандартного листа с шириной левого поля в три сантиметра**. Используемый компьютерный шрифт для текста на русском и английском языках - **Times New Roman (Кириллица)**, для текста на грузинском языке следует использовать **AcadNusx**. Размер шрифта - **12**. К рукописи, напечатанной на компьютере, должен быть приложен CD со статьей.

2. Размер статьи должен быть не менее десяти и не более двадцати страниц машинописи, включая указатель литературы и резюме на английском, русском и грузинском языках.

3. В статье должны быть освещены актуальность данного материала, методы и результаты исследования и их обсуждение.

При представлении в печать научных экспериментальных работ авторы должны указывать вид и количество экспериментальных животных, применявшиеся методы обезболивания и усыпления (в ходе острых опытов).

4. К статье должны быть приложены краткое (на полстраницы) резюме на английском, русском и грузинском языках (включающее следующие разделы: цель исследования, материал и методы, результаты и заключение) и список ключевых слов (key words).

5. Таблицы необходимо представлять в печатной форме. Фотокопии не принимаются. **Все цифровые, итоговые и процентные данные в таблицах должны соответствовать таковым в тексте статьи**. Таблицы и графики должны быть озаглавлены.

6. Фотографии должны быть контрастными, фотокопии с рентгенограмм - в позитивном изображении. Рисунки, чертежи и диаграммы следует озаглавить, пронумеровать и вставить в соответствующее место текста **в tiff формате**.

В подписях к микрофотографиям следует указывать степень увеличения через окуляр или объектив и метод окраски или импрегнации срезов.

7. Фамилии отечественных авторов приводятся в оригинальной транскрипции.

8. При оформлении и направлении статей в журнал МНГ просим авторов соблюдать правила, изложенные в «Единых требованиях к рукописям, представляемым в биомедицинские журналы», принятых Международным комитетом редакторов медицинских журналов - <http://www.spinesurgery.ru/files/publish.pdf> и http://www.nlm.nih.gov/bsd/uniform_requirements.html В конце каждой оригинальной статьи приводится библиографический список. В список литературы включаются все материалы, на которые имеются ссылки в тексте. Список составляется в алфавитном порядке и нумеруется. Литературный источник приводится на языке оригинала. В списке литературы сначала приводятся работы, написанные знаками грузинского алфавита, затем кириллицей и латиницей. Ссылки на цитируемые работы в тексте статьи даются в квадратных скобках в виде номера, соответствующего номеру данной работы в списке литературы. Большинство цитированных источников должны быть за последние 5-7 лет.

9. Для получения права на публикацию статья должна иметь от руководителя работы или учреждения визу и сопроводительное отношение, написанные или напечатанные на бланке и заверенные подписью и печатью.

10. В конце статьи должны быть подписи всех авторов, полностью приведены их фамилии, имена и отчества, указаны служебный и домашний номера телефонов и адреса или иные координаты. Количество авторов (соавторов) не должно превышать пяти человек.

11. Редакция оставляет за собой право сокращать и исправлять статьи. Корректур авторам не высылаются, вся работа и сверка проводится по авторскому оригиналу.

12. Недопустимо направление в редакцию работ, представленных к печати в иных издательствах или опубликованных в других изданиях.

При нарушении указанных правил статьи не рассматриваются.

REQUIREMENTS

Please note, materials submitted to the Editorial Office Staff are supposed to meet the following requirements:

1. Articles must be provided with a double copy, in English or Russian languages and typed or computer-printed on a single side of standard typing paper, with the left margin of 3 centimeters width, and 1.5 spacing between the lines, typeface - **Times New Roman (Cyrillic)**, print size - 12 (referring to Georgian and Russian materials). With computer-printed texts please enclose a CD carrying the same file titled with Latin symbols.

2. Size of the article, including index and resume in English, Russian and Georgian languages must be at least 10 pages and not exceed the limit of 20 pages of typed or computer-printed text.

3. Submitted material must include a coverage of a topical subject, research methods, results, and review.

Authors of the scientific-research works must indicate the number of experimental biological species drawn in, list the employed methods of anesthetization and soporific means used during acute tests.

4. Articles must have a short (half page) abstract in English, Russian and Georgian (including the following sections: aim of study, material and methods, results and conclusions) and a list of key words.

5. Tables must be presented in an original typed or computer-printed form, instead of a photocopied version. **Numbers, totals, percentile data on the tables must coincide with those in the texts of the articles.** Tables and graphs must be headed.

6. Photographs are required to be contrasted and must be submitted with doubles. Please number each photograph with a pencil on its back, indicate author's name, title of the article (short version), and mark out its top and bottom parts. Drawings must be accurate, drafts and diagrams drawn in Indian ink (or black ink). Photocopies of the X-ray photographs must be presented in a positive image in **tiff format**.

Accurately numbered subtitles for each illustration must be listed on a separate sheet of paper. In the subtitles for the microphotographs please indicate the ocular and objective lens magnification power, method of coloring or impregnation of the microscopic sections (preparations).

7. Please indicate last names, first and middle initials of the native authors, present names and initials of the foreign authors in the transcription of the original language, enclose in parenthesis corresponding number under which the author is listed in the reference materials.

8. Please follow guidance offered to authors by The International Committee of Medical Journal Editors guidance in its Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals publication available online at: http://www.nlm.nih.gov/bsd/uniform_requirements.html
http://www.icmje.org/urm_full.pdf

In GMN style for each work cited in the text, a bibliographic reference is given, and this is located at the end of the article under the title "References". All references cited in the text must be listed. The list of references should be arranged alphabetically and then numbered. References are numbered in the text [numbers in square brackets] and in the reference list and numbers are repeated throughout the text as needed. The bibliographic description is given in the language of publication (citations in Georgian script are followed by Cyrillic and Latin).

9. To obtain the rights of publication articles must be accompanied by a visa from the project instructor or the establishment, where the work has been performed, and a reference letter, both written or typed on a special signed form, certified by a stamp or a seal.

10. Articles must be signed by all of the authors at the end, and they must be provided with a list of full names, office and home phone numbers and addresses or other non-office locations where the authors could be reached. The number of the authors (co-authors) must not exceed the limit of 5 people.

11. Editorial Staff reserves the rights to cut down in size and correct the articles. Proof-sheets are not sent out to the authors. The entire editorial and collation work is performed according to the author's original text.

12. Sending in the works that have already been assigned to the press by other Editorial Staffs or have been printed by other publishers is not permissible.

**Articles that Fail to Meet the Aforementioned
Requirements are not Assigned to be Reviewed.**

ავტორთა საქურაღებოლ!

რედაქციაში სტატიის წარმოდგენისას საჭიროა დაიცვათ შემდეგი წესები:

1. სტატია უნდა წარმოადგინოთ 2 ცალად, რუსულ ან ინგლისურ ენებზე დაბეჭდილი სტანდარტული ფურცლის 1 გვერდზე, 3 სმ სიგანის მარცხენა ველისა და სტრიქონებს შორის 1,5 ინტერვალის დაცვით. გამოყენებული კომპიუტერული შრიფტი რუსულ და ინგლისურენოვან ტექსტებში - **Times New Roman (Кириллица)**, ხოლო ქართულენოვან ტექსტში საჭიროა გამოვიყენოთ **AcadNusx**. შრიფტის ზომა – 12. სტატიას თან უნდა ახლდეს CD სტატიით.

2. სტატიის მოცულობა არ უნდა შეადგენდეს 10 გვერდზე ნაკლებს და 20 გვერდზე მეტს ლიტერატურის სიის და რეზიუმეების (ინგლისურ, რუსულ და ქართულ ენებზე) ჩათვლით.

3. სტატიაში საჭიროა გაშუქდეს: საკითხის აქტუალობა; კვლევის მიზანი; საკვლევი მასალა და გამოყენებული მეთოდები; მიღებული შედეგები და მათი განსჯა. ექსპერიმენტული ხასიათის სტატიების წარმოდგენისას ავტორებმა უნდა მიუთითონ საექსპერიმენტო ცხოველების სახეობა და რაოდენობა; გაუტკივარებისა და დაძინების მეთოდები (მწვავე ცდების პირობებში).

4. სტატიას თან უნდა ახლდეს რეზიუმე ინგლისურ, რუსულ და ქართულ ენებზე არანაკლებ ნახევარი გვერდის მოცულობისა (სათაურის, ავტორების, დაწესებულების მითითებით და უნდა შეიცავდეს შემდეგ განყოფილებებს: მიზანი, მასალა და მეთოდები, შედეგები და დასკვნები; ტექსტუალური ნაწილი არ უნდა იყოს 15 სტრიქონზე ნაკლები) და საკვანძო სიტყვების ჩამონათვალი (key words).

5. ცხრილები საჭიროა წარმოადგინოთ ნაბეჭდი სახით. ყველა ციფრული, შემაჯამებელი და პროცენტული მონაცემები უნდა შეესაბამებოდეს ტექსტში მოყვანილს.

6. ფოტოსურათები უნდა იყოს კონტრასტული; სურათები, ნახაზები, დიაგრამები - დასათაურებული, დანომრილი და სათანადო ადგილას ჩასმული. რენტგენოგრაფიების ფოტოასლები წარმოადგინეთ პოზიტიური გამოსახულებით **tiff** ფორმატში. მიკროფოტოსურათების წარწერებში საჭიროა მიუთითოთ ოკულარის ან ობიექტივის საშუალებით გადიდების ხარისხი, ანათალების შედეგების ან იმპრეგნაციის მეთოდი და აღნიშნოთ სურათის ზედა და ქვედა ნაწილები.

7. სამამულო ავტორების გვარები სტატიაში აღინიშნება ინიციალების თანდართვით, უცხოურისა – უცხოური ტრანსკრიპციით.

8. სტატიას თან უნდა ახლდეს ავტორის მიერ გამოყენებული სამამულო და უცხოური შრომების ბიბლიოგრაფიული სია (ბოლო 5-8 წლის სიღრმით). ანბანური წყობით წარმოდგენილ ბიბლიოგრაფიულ სიაში მიუთითეთ ჯერ სამამულო, შემდეგ უცხოელი ავტორები (გვარი, ინიციალები, სტატიის სათაური, ჟურნალის დასახელება, გამოცემის ადგილი, წელი, ჟურნალის №, პირველი და ბოლო გვერდები). მონოგრაფიის შემთხვევაში მიუთითეთ გამოცემის წელი, ადგილი და გვერდების საერთო რაოდენობა. ტექსტში კვადრატულ ფხიხლებში უნდა მიუთითოთ ავტორის შესაბამისი N ლიტერატურის სიის მიხედვით. მიზანშეწონილია, რომ ციტირებული წყაროების უმეტესი ნაწილი იყოს 5-6 წლის სიღრმის.

9. სტატიას თან უნდა ახლდეს: ა) დაწესებულების ან სამეცნიერო ხელმძღვანელის წარდგინება, დამოწმებული ხელმოწერითა და ბეჭდით; ბ) დარგის სპეციალისტის დამოწმებული რეცენზია, რომელშიც მითითებული იქნება საკითხის აქტუალობა, მასალის საკმაობა, მეთოდის სანდოობა, შედეგების სამეცნიერო-პრაქტიკული მნიშვნელობა.

10. სტატიის ბოლოს საჭიროა ყველა ავტორის ხელმოწერა, რომელთა რაოდენობა არ უნდა აღემატებოდეს 5-ს.

11. რედაქცია იტოვებს უფლებას შეასწოროს სტატია. ტექსტზე მუშაობა და შეჯერება ხდება საავტორო ორიგინალის მიხედვით.

12. დაუშვებელია რედაქციაში ისეთი სტატიის წარდგენა, რომელიც დასაბეჭდად წარდგენილი იყო სხვა რედაქციაში ან გამოქვეყნებული იყო სხვა გამოცემებში.

აღნიშნული წესების დარღვევის შემთხვევაში სტატიები არ განიხილება.

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A CASE REPORT OF DISCONTINUED SPLENOGONADAL FUSION MASQUERADED AS PARATESTICULAR TUMOR

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Abstract.

Spleno gonadal fusion is a rare congenital anomaly characterized by an unusual linkage between ectopic splenic tissue and the gonad, with a higher prevalence observed in the males. While the majority of the spleno gonadal fusion cases are associated with cryptorchidism, the patients may have other congenital malformations such as inguinal hernias. Despite being benign and having a rare occurrence, the preoperative diagnosis of spleno gonadal fusion is a challenging one. In this article, the author reports an unusual case of spleno gonadal fusion in a 21-year-old male who presented with a left scrotal mass, pain, and discomfort. Based on the Doppler ultrasound and magnetic resonance imaging findings, the patient was diagnosed with a paratesticular adenomatoid tumor, however, post-excisional histopathologic evaluation findings were indicative of spleno gonadal fusion. For benign para-testicular masses, the patients can undergo surgical tumor removal without orchiectomy, however, the diagnosis is often confirmed following orchidectomy. The physicians shall consider the potential rare diagnosis of spleno gonadal fusion in patients presenting with scrotal mass as well as acquire knowledge pertaining to the clinical and radiological features of the disease to prevent unnecessary orchidectomy.

Key words. Spleno gonadal fusion, paratesticular tumor.

Introduction.

First described in the year 1883, spleno gonadal fusion is a rare congenital disorder that is associated with the abnormal attachment of the spleen to the gonad [1,2]. The congenital anomaly is related to other malformations including cryptorchidism and inguinal hernias [1,3]. Also described as a developmental choristoma, spleno gonadal fusion is a clinical masquerader with a challenging preoperative diagnosis owing to the rare occurrence of ectopic spleen tissue attachment with the gonad [4]. The age of spleno gonadal fusion patients is less than 10 years in almost half of the cases whereas the majority of the cases occur in males younger than 30 years of age [5]. In this article, the authors report the case of spleno gonadal fusion in a 21-year-old male, which was pre-diagnosed as a para-testicular tumor and polyorchidism.

Case Presentation.

A 21-year-old male presented to the clinic with complaints of left painless testicular mass with occasional discomfort for the last few months. He observed a small painless mass in his scrotum on the left side a few years back and the mass had only slightly grown in size. The patient did not report any trauma, urinary tract infections, or sexually transmitted diseases. Physical examination revealed grade III left varicocele and a left para-testicular mass above the left testis and epididymis,

measuring about 1.5×1.5 cm. The mass was firm in consistency and non-tender, and both testes were normal in size without masses on physical examination. There was no fever, skin redness of the scrotum and Prehn's sign was absent. Scrotal Doppler ultrasound revealed a well-defined isoechoic structure in the left hemi-scrotum at the superomedial aspect of the left testicle, which was separated by an oblique septum with a similar echogenicity and vascularity as the testicle. There was a dilated and refluxing grade III varicocele on the left side (Figure 1).

On magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) of the pelvis with contrast, a well-defined rounded extra-testicular lesion adjacent to the left testicle was seen. The lesion demonstrated avid post-contrast enhancement. There were no signs of focal invasion, intra-testicular mass, free fluid, or enlarged lymph nodes on MRI. The MRI findings were suggestive of an adenomatoid tumor (Figure 2).

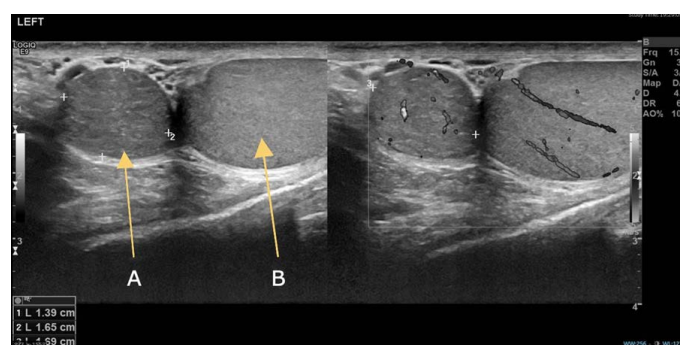


Figure 1. Ultrasound Doppler of the Scrotum.

A: Left para-testicular mass.

B: Left Testis.

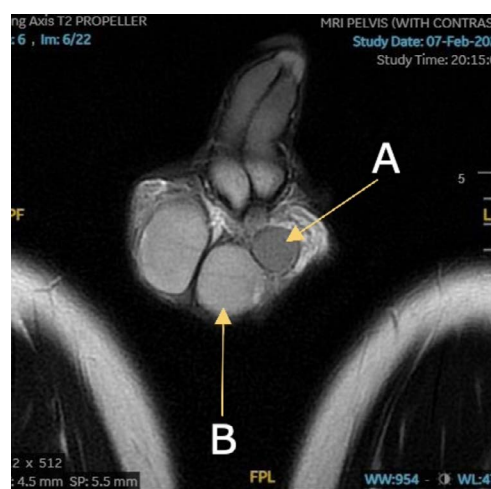


Figure 2. MRI of Testis.

A: Left Para-testicular mass.

B: Left Testis.

The tumor markers including alpha-fetoprotein, beta human chorionic gonadotropin, and lactate dehydrogenase were within the normal biochemical ranges. After obtaining the patient's consent, he underwent left inguinal exploration. The intraoperative findings revealed a mass arising from the left spermatic cord separate from the testis and epididymis (Figure 3).

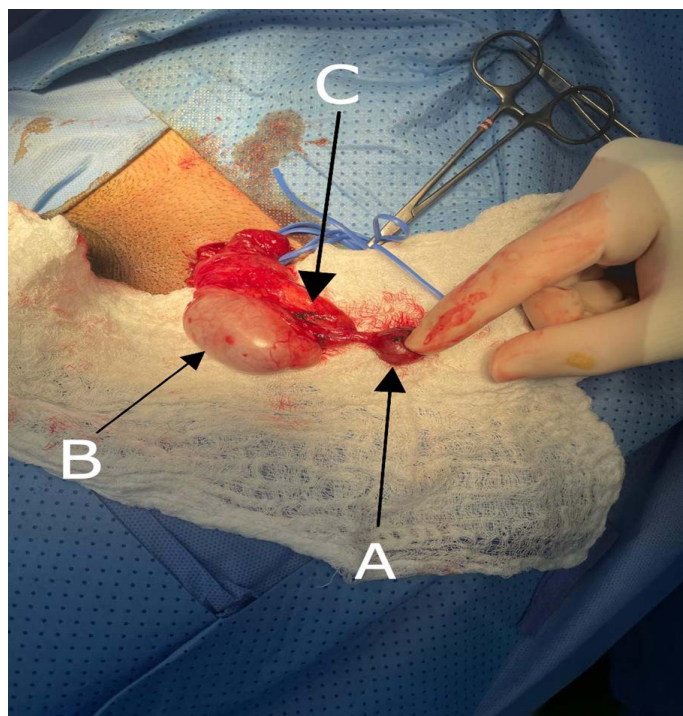


Figure 3. Intra-Operative photo.
 A: Left Para-Testicular mass.
 B: Left Testis.
 C: Left Spermatic Cord.

After its dissection from the spermatic cord, the mass was excised and sent for histopathological evaluation. The surgeon also performed a microsurgical left varicocelectomy for the treatment of high-grade varicocele. The postoperative recovery period was uneventful. The patient was discharged on the same day as the procedure. The gross appearance of the specimen was of tan gray tissue measuring 1.9×1.8×1.4 cm and the histopathological evaluation confirmed the presence of benign splenic tissue confirming the diagnosis of splenogonadal fusion.

Discussion.

Splenogonadal fusion is a rare congenital occurrence that can coexist with cardiac anomalies, micrognathia, cleft palate, and other congenital ailments [6,7]. The clinical entity can be categorized into continuous and discontinuous splenogonadal fusion, with the former being more common. The continuous form of splenogonadal fusion comprises a cord-like structure that forms the attachment between the spleen and the gonad. The cord-like structure can be splenic, or fibrous, or can be composed of fibrous and splenic nodules. On the contrary, discontinuous splenogonadal fusion involves an ectopic splenic tissue. This may appear as a firm scrotal mass. The ectopic splenic tissue can be attached to the testis, epididymis, or other mesonephric derivatives. The majority of the cases of

continuous and discontinuous forms of splenogonadal fusion are related to syndromic congenital anomalies and isolated inguinal swellings, respectively [4,8,9].

The congenital anomaly has no established etiology, however, various etiopathogenesis theories and mechanisms have been proposed to explain the development of splenogonadal fusion. One of the mechanisms is the formation of an abnormal attachment between the splenic and gonadal tissue during the 5th and 8th weeks of gestation when the two organs are proximal to one another [10,11]. During the 8th and 10th weeks of embryonic life, the descent of gonads into the pelvis also leads to the caudal displacement of the splenic tissue. Another etiological mechanism explaining the development of splenogonadal development involves peritoneal inflammation and resultant adhesion of the spleen and gonadal ridges prior to the descent. Besides splenogonadal fusion, the occurrence of a teratogenic event before the 8th week of gestation can lead to the development of other congenital anomalies such as limb anomalies and micrognathia [4]. The existing studies do not report any environmental risk factors associated with the development of splenogonadal fusion [1].

In the majority of the cases, splenogonadal fusion is incidentally discovered during inguinal hernia repair surgery or orchidopexy. The patients may present with testicular mass or pain, which may mimic the symptoms of acute epididymitis or testicular torsion. The most common clinical presentation in patients with a discontinuous form of splenogonadal fusion is an asymptomatic painless mass in the scrotum. Signs and symptoms associated with the involvement of the splenic tissue include leukaemia, intestinal obstruction, malaria, and mononucleosis [12]. In rare cases, splenogonadal fusion can be diagnosed preoperatively on MRI, ultrasound, or computed tomography, predominantly the continuous form of splenogonadal fusion. In patients with a suspected diagnosis of splenogonadal fusion, technetium-99m scintigraphy can facilitate the confirmation of ectopic splenic tissue. Based on the diagnostic algorithm proposed by Kadouri et al, patients who exhibit radioactive tracer fixation on splenic tissue and scrotum may undergo resection of the splenic tissue or orchidectomy if dissection is not the feasible approach. On the contrary, the absence of radioactive tracer fixation in the scrotum prompts inguinal surgical exploration [5,13]. Other diagnostic tools in splenogonadal fusion are microflow imaging ultrasound technique and contrast-enhanced ultrasonography. The gold standard diagnostic method is the histopathological evaluation of the surgically resected mass [4].

Preoperative diagnostic challenges and uncertainties may cause patients to undergo unnecessary orchidectomy [14]. However, these interventions can be prevented if a confident diagnosis is made using radiological modalities. While studies do not indicate a direct association of splenogonadal fusion with testicular malignancy, the association between splenogonadal fusion and cryptorchidism indicates an increased risk of testicular malignancy, suggesting the utility of orchidectomy in these patients [8,15]. Diagnostic laparoscopy can be safely performed in splenogonadal fusion patients, particularly in patients with non-palpable testis. In this procedure, the ectopic splenic tissue can be easily dissected, and the gonads can be preserved unless cryptorchidism is suspected [1,16]. A useful

approach to prevent unnecessary orchiectomy, the surgeon may perform a two-stage laparoscopy, and the pathologist can exclude malignancy by examining the frozen section of the mass [12,17]. The physicians may also discuss abstention from surgery if the diagnosis is established preoperatively and the disease does not have any clinical manifestations [5,18].

The studies also recommend that the preoperative diagnosis of splenogonadal fusion or suspected testicular neoplasm should be discussed in a multidisciplinary team meeting and the patient should also be provided appropriate counselling. Radical orchiectomy is considered when the diagnosis and intraoperative findings are suggestive of testicular neoplasm. Moreover, preoperative sperm storage options must be considered and discussed with the patient [14]. Lopes et al. also reported performing bench testicular microdissection for searching and collecting viable sperms for cryopreservation [16].

Conclusion.

In summary, this case report highlights the diagnostic evaluation of patients with an atypical presentation of scrotal pain and swelling. Splenogonadal fusion shall be considered a differential diagnosis in patients with such presenting complaints, predominantly in younger males. Missing the diagnosis of benign scrotal masses may result in unnecessary orchidectomies.

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