INTRODUCTION

Stone which cause obstruction may have arisen in the common bile duct (CBD), gall bladder or in the hepatic or intrahepatic ducts. Some patients may remain asymptomatic while others progress to a symptomatic stage. Usually, laboratory results reveal deranged liver function tests such as elevated serum gamma-glutamyl transpeptidase and alkaline phosphatase. The treatment modalities depend on the size, site, and situation of the impacted stone and recurrence has been reported frequently in such cases. We present a case diagnosed as large CBD stone with normal liver function test. Surgery was carried out, and a large CBD stone removed of size 5 cm × 3 cm × 4 cm. The purpose behind this report is to highlight that such large stones are quite uncommon in the CBD and absence of jaundice is even rarer with such stone. Early treatment is very necessary to prevent complications such as liver failure or hepatorenal syndrome.

CASE REPORT

A 55-year-old woman was admitted with 2 weeks history of epigastric discomfort, postprandial abdominal pain, and vomiting. She had complained of mild and self-relieving dyspepsia for 2 years. She had an operative history of open cholecystectomy 10 years back. The examinations revealed a woman with tenderness in the right upper quadrant. Complete blood count was normal. The biochemical parameters were as follows: Serum sodium - 141 mEq/L; serum potassium - 4.7 mEq/L; serum chloride - 104 mEq/L. The serum electrolytes and urine analysis were normal. The liver function tests were as follows: Serum bilirubin, 0.54 mg/dl; total and serum alkaline phosphatase, 80 IU/L. The ultrasoundography revealed a large stone in the CBD [Figure 1]. An abdominal magnetic resonance imaging showed a solitary large impacting stone in the CDB with marked dilatation of CBD and intrahepatic biliary radicals. On exploration, multiple adhesions were found around the CBD, duodenum and liver, which were meticulously dissected. The CBD was grossly dilated and thickened. Stay sutures were placed, and the CBD was opened. A large stone was noted in the duct and was removed of size 5 cm × 3 cm × 4 cm [Figures 2 and 3]. Dilators were passed both upward and downward which could be negotiated with ease. CBD was closed with interrupted 3–0 vicryl sutures with T-tube placed in situ. The postoperative course was completed without any difficulties.

Key words: Cholecystectomy, common bile duct, stone, surgery

Abstract

Acute cholangitis and pancreatitis are the most common complications of the obstructed common bile duct (CBD). We are reporting a rare entity case diagnosed as giant CBD stone of size 5 cm × 3 cm × 4 cm with normal liver function test. As far as giant CBD stones are concerned, surgery is the treatment of choice whereas endoscopic procedure requires careful observation and further treatment innovations may be required.

The CBD stone measured 5 cm × 3 cm × 4 cm with a weight of around 50 g. T-tube cholangiogram was done after 2 weeks, and T-tube was removed after the normal report.

**DISCUSSION**

Stone in CBD are defined as large if they are more than 15 mm in size. There are very few reports, which describe a giant stone measuring 5 cm or more.[4] Matsumoto et al. reported a successful removal of large CBD stones using an endoscopic maneuver; however, the larger size and impact of CBD stones were an important factor for failure of endoscopic management.[5,6] We also came across such a rare entity diagnosed as giant CBD stone so as reporting. CBD is dilated due to the large size of the stone. The presence of such a large stone without an associated jaundice is rare.[7] Early detection of CBD stones based on the development of endoscopic devices and concerns about health has diminished the importance of surgery for giant CBD stones. The dysmotility of the bile duct tract was usually confined to the gallbladder dyskinesia and sphincter of Oddi dysfunction.[8] The pathogenesis of recurrent CBD stones is directly related to delayed biliary motility in cholecystectomized patients. Above all, the treatment strategy for giant CBD stones is identical to that of surgical treatment for bile duct stones; specifically, remove all existing bile duct stones and prevent recurrent stone formations.

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**Conflicts of interest**

There are no conflicts of interest.

**REFERENCES**