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Adult intussusception: An eight-year institutional review

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Background: Intussusception is a rare cause of intestinal obstruction in adults. Its diagnosis could be elusive based solely on clinical features because of protean presentations. Supplementary imaging allows for pre-operative diagnosis, early institution of definitive management, and a better clinical course.

Patients & Methods: Records of adults managed for intestinal obstruction by laparotomy in a surgical unit of a tertiary health facility were retrospectively examined. The subgroup having an intra-operative diagnosis of intussusception was extracted and analyzed. Data obtained included age, sex, and primary symptoms at presentation. Presence of intestinal perforation, the histology of the lead point of resected tissues and the final disposition of the patients were documented.

Results: Four hundred and three patients underwent surgical management of intestinal obstruction. Eight patients (2%) had an intra-operative diagnosis of intussusceptions at laparotomy, four males and four females. (male:female ratio 1:1). Abdominal pain was the presentation in 7(87.5%) and anal protrusion in


1(12.5%). Four patients (50%) had bowel perforation with peritonitis. Seven of the resected intestine had lead points which were benign. Two patients (25%) died from sepsis. Resection and anastomosis were done for all the patients.

Conclusion: Intussusception in adults is uncommon but carries a high morbidity and mortality which can be reduced with a good clinical assessment, appropriate imaging and early laparotomy.

Speaker Biography

Uduma Felix U is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Radiology, Faculty of Clinical Sciences, College of Health Sciences at University of Uyo, Uyo, Nigeria. He is Head of Department/Consultant Radiologist in Department of Radiology at University of Uyo Teaching Hospital, Uyo, Nigeria. He is also a Member of Medical Advisory Board at University of Uyo Teaching Hospital, Uyo, Nigeria and Associate Editor of many journals including *West African Journal of Radiology* and Financial Secretary of Association of Radiologists' of West Africa (ARAWA). He was Head of Department of Radiology in Faculty of Clinical Sciences, College of Health Sciences at University of Uyo, Nigeria and Consultant Radiologist at Abia State University Teaching Hospital, Aba, Nigeria. He was Adjunct Lecturer in Madonna University, Elele, Nigeria & Consultant Radiologist, Polyclinic Bonanjo, Douala, Cameroon. He has published more than 30 articles.

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