



Fig. 1 Hydatid Cyst.

REFERENCES

1. Belding D. L., Textbook of Parasitology, 3rd Edition, New York Appleton-Century-Crofts 1965.
2. Langer J. C. et, al Diagnosis and Management of Hydatid diseases of the liver *ann surg*, 1984 199 : 412.
3. Talib H. Some surgical aspects of hydatid disease in Iran, *Br. J. Surg*, 1968 55 : 576.
4. Barret N. R. and Thomas D. Hydatid cyst in the Human Body, *Br, J. Surg*. 1952 40 : 222.
5. Emamy H, and Asadian A. Unusual presentation of hydatid cysts, *Am, J. Surg* 1976 132 : 403.
6. Hamdani, H. S.S. Hydatid cyst of spleen, *A. F. Med. J.* 1977 28 : 1.
7. Mukerjee S. Nigam, M and Saraf, J. C. Primary Retroperitoneal hydatid cyst, *Br, J. Surg*. 1973 60 : 916.
8. Shabbir A, Khan F. A. Hydatid Cyst spleen, *J. Pak. Med. Assoc.* 1982 32 : 108.
9. Malik M. R. Incidence of hydatid cyst in a rural district of Pakistan (Dera Ghazi Khan), unpublished report, presented at Nishtar Medical College Alumni, meeting 1982

THE AUTHORS:

Altaf Hussain Rathore, M.B.B.S., D.A., F.R.C.S., F.I.C.S., Professor, Ijaz Mansoor, M.B.B.S., House Surgeon Unit II, Department of Surgery, Quaid-e-Azam Medical College, Bahawalpur.

Hydatid Cyst of the Spleen

Altaf Hussain Rathore and Ijaz Mansoor

Department of Surgery, Quaid-i-Azam Medical College, Bahawalpur

ABSTRACT

A case of hydatid cyst of the spleen is presented. Between 4 to 5% of all hydatids are found in the spleen.

Key words : Hydatid disease -- Spleen

INTRODUCTION

Echinococcus granulosus infestation in man is more common in areas where man, sheep and dog live in close contact. Man is infested handling infected dogs or by ingesting water and green vegetables polluted by the faeces of affected dogs¹. Three to ten days after ingestion of ova a small hydatid cyst is formed, which attains a size of 250 microns in 3 weeks and 1 cm. in 5 months. Hydatid cysts may be unilocular or multilocular. The cyst fluid is often clear with a specific gravity of 1004-1008 and pH of 6.7. Albumin is present in traces. In 85% of the cases the liver and/or lungs are involved. In the remaining 15% any organ may be involved. The spleen is not commonly involved though more than two-thirds of the cysts of the spleen are due to hydatid disease. In our recent series of 21 hydatid cysts, we have seen splenic involvement in only one patient.

CASE REPORT

A.D. a 40 year old male presented to surgical Unit II of the B.V. Hospital, Bahawalpur on April 14, 1984

with a painful swelling in left hypochondrium for the last 4 years. Originally the size of an egg it increased gradually and attained a size of 6" x 12", was not tender, from impalpation and appeared to be arising from the spleen. The liver and other viscera were not palpable, he was anicteric, and there was no ascites. The total leucocyte count was 78000/cu. mm., the differential count showed an eosinophilia of 28%. His Hb was 10.6G and the ESR 20mm in the first hour. The Casoni's test was positive.

A diagnosis of hydatid cyst of the spleen was made. At laparotomy a hydatid cyst was present in the spleen. A splenectomy was done. Histology confirmed the diagnosis.

DISCUSSION

Hydatid disease of the spleen is rare, 2-3% of all cases in Iraq³, 1.5% in India^{4,7} and 4.1% in Iran⁵, had splenic hydatid. We do not have extensive data in Pakistan about splenic involvement by the Hydatid cyst though Hamdani⁶ in 1977 and Shabbir⁸ in 1982 each reported a case of splenic hydatid cyst. Malik⁹ in 1982 reported 25 cases of hydatid cyst treated by him in 3 years of which one had splenic involvement.

Of 21 cases of hydatid cyst treated by us in the last 16 years one resided in the spleen, an incidence of 4.8% comparable to the incidence quoted by Malik⁹ from Pakistan and Emany and Asadian⁵ from Iran.