Laparoscopic correction of hydrenephrosis caused by left paraduodenal hernia in a child with cryptorchism: A case report

Hydrenephrosis caused by left paraduodenal hernia

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Abstract

BACKGROUND
Paraduodenal hernia (PDH) is a mesenteric-parietal hernia with retroperitoneal retrocolic herniation of the small bowel into a sac, which is formed by a peritoneal fold located near the fourth portion of the duodenum. The case was revealing that PDH was a possible reason for hydronephrosis. And the careful laparoscopic exploration surgery was necessary to find infrequent causes of hydronephrosis avoiding Invalid Anderson – Hynes pyeloplasty surgery and its injury.

CASE SUMMARY
An 8-year-old boy presented to the pediatric department with a chief complaint of cryptorchidism. Afterwards, laparoscopy confirmed hydronephrosis secondary to left PDH of cryptorchid. Then, he received laparoscopic surgery, fixed operation for left PDH, release of the ureteropelvic junction obstruction (UPJO), and treatment for hydronephrosis. It is necessary to perform secondary surgery for cryptorchidism and long-term follow-up.

CONCLUSION
The case is an extremely rare cause of hydronephrosis in children, reporting a potential correlation between PDH and hydronephrosis.

Key Words: paraduodenal hernia (PDH), hydronephrosis, cryptorchidism, laparoscopic surgery, case report

Wang X, Wu Y, Guan Y. Successful total laparoscopic correction of hydronephrosis caused by left paraduodenal hernia in a child with right cryptorchism: A case report. World J Clin Cases 2022; In press
**Core Tip:** Paraduodenal hernia (PDH) is a kind of mesenteric wall hernia accompanied by retroperitoneal and retro colic hernia. The small intestine hernia enters the sac, which is formed by peritoneal folds located near the fourth part of the duodenum. The case was revealing that PDH was a possible reason for hydronephrosis. And the careful laparoscopic exploration surgery was necessary to find infrequent causes of hydronephrosis avoiding invalid Anderson-Hynes pyeloplasty surgery and its injury.

**INTRODUCTION**
Internal hernia refers to the outward protrusion of internal organs through the peritoneum or mesentery, and less than 1% of all abdominal hernia [1]. Of all the internal hernia, paraduodenal hernia (PDH) is the most commonly. Left PDH accounts for about 75% of all cases. PDH can cause small bowel obstruction and hydronephrosis [2]. Currently, diagnosing internal hernia is challenging.
Cryptorchidism is a common congenital disease, with an incidence of 2-5% in male births. When the testis is missing or dysfunctional, the temperature of the inguinal canal and inside the abdomen increases, which harms the germinal epithelium and can lead to malignancy. Only 7% of pediatric patients with inguinal hernia present with cryptorchidism, and PDH combined with cryptorchidism is rare. The case was revealing that PDH was a possible reason for hydronephrosis. And the careful laparoscopic exploration surgery was necessary to find infrequent causes of hydronephrosis avoiding invalid Anderson-Hynes pyeloplasty surgery and its injury. To publish this case report and the accompanying images, the informed consent has been obtained.

**CASE PRESENTATION**
*Chief complaints*
An 8-year-old boy was admitted to our hospital because of enuresis and missing left testis.
History of present illness
The patient had been diagnosed with cryptorchidism at another hospital.

History of past illness
Health.

Personal and family history
The patient denied any family history of Reproductive and urinary disease.

Physical examination
The body mass index was 14.2 kg/m², and physical and rectal examinations were unremarkable. The left testis was topical without alterations, and the right testis was imperceptible in the scrotum.

Laboratory examinations
No abnormality was found in routine blood and urine analyses.

Imaging examinations
A urinary B-ultrasound revealed left hydronephrosis. Serum creatinine and blood urea nitrogen levels were normal. Contrast-enhanced computed tomography (CT) confirmed left hydronephrosis and left ureteropelvic junction obstruction, but not parauodenal hernia (Figure 1).

FINAL DIAGNOSIS
Hydronephrosis and Cryptorchism

TREATMENT
Laparoscopic exploration and Anderson-Hynes pyeloplasty are often used for intraoperative diagnosis and correction of ureteropelvic junction obstruction. A 10-mm port was inserted in the infraumbilical direction using the Hasson technique, and the
other ports were placed below the umbilicus and epigastric region. Laparoscopic examination showed dilation of the left renal pelvis, and some adjacent intestines and rings surrounding the duodenal recess, forming PDH. The PDH compressed the upper part of the left ureter, causing hydronephrosis (Figure 2). The small intestine is smaller in patients with paraduodenal hernia than in normal children of the same age, and the hernia can be reduced by incision and traction of hernia sac. An incision on the hernia sac wall releases the hernia sac. After placing the bowel in the hernia sac at the correct position, we found that the anterior wall of the hernia sac neck (the branches of the inferior mesenteric vein and left colonic artery) blocked the blood supply of some bowel tubes. To make sure that the blood vessel (the branches of the inferior mesenteric vein and left colonic artery) was not necessary, we had been occluding it for 20 min. We made sure that the intestinal color, peristalsis and blood supply were normal, so the blood vessel was cut off. We concluded that some ureteropelvic junction obstructions were caused by external compression and did not perform pyeloplasty. No local or systemic complications were noted.

OUTCOME AND FOLLOW-UP
After 12 wk of follow-up, hydronephrosis and calyceal dilatation disappeared. Three months later, the patient underwent laparoscopic testicular descent and fixation under general anesthesia to treat cryptorchidism. Two years later, CT showed that the hydronephrosis had subsided (Figure 3). Blood Urea nitrogen and serum creatinine levels were normal.

DISCUSSION
Since PDH was first described in 1857 and classified in 1889, studies have shown that poor rotation is a potential mechanism of PDH. Midgut rotation occurs in gestational weeks 5–11, and the mesentery fused the posterior abdominal structure from the right iliac fossa to the Trez ligament. PDH can present as asymptomatic, recurring abdominal pain, or acute obstruction.
Left PDH develops secondarily to midgut rotation failure [7], which can lead to small bowel obstruction or other clinical manifestations. It is difficult to diagnose because of complex clinical features [8]. Laboratory tests are of little diagnostic value, and physical examination cannot lead to diagnosis unless the hernia is sufficiently large to form an abdominal mass. Currently, about 50% of internal hernias are confirmed by imaging examinations, autopsy or surgeries [9]. Although CT is good for diagnosis of PDH in patients without a specific presentation [10], only 10%-15% of cases are diagnosed preoperatively [11].

Surgical repair is the conventional treatment for left PDH, and approximately 50% of patients present with complications [12]. Surgery respects the ischemic intestinal segment, returns the contents of the hernia to the normal position, and closes the hernia hole. Preventing hernia recurrence remains a challenge. It is rare to implant prosthesis to repair defects. Mesh implants are used to repair recurrent hernia and large defects [13]. Open surgery was a traditional method for treatment of left PDH. Until 1998, Uematsu first reported laparoscopic surgery for PDH, which is now often used to diagnose and repair PDH [14].

In this case, the preoperative examination did not reveal the presence of paraduodenal hernia, so we planned to perform laparoscopic pyeloplasty, with an operation time of about 1.5 h. Because the stent needs to be removed again 6-8 wk after pyeloplasty, we planned to perform testicular descent and fixation at the same time during the second stent removal operation, which takes approximately 1 h. Thus, patients do not have to undergo long-term general anesthesia multiple times, and the number of operations does not increase. However, paraduodenal hernia was accidentally found during hydronephrosis surgery. It is inferred that hydronephrosis may be caused by paraduodenal hernia, but the real cause remains to be further discovered. We have never seen the paraduodenal hernia during the operation of hydronephrosis. After observation and analysis during the operation, we concluded that the patient's ureteropelvic junction obstruction was not obvious and the location of the paraduodenal hernia was close to the ureteropelvic junction, so hydronephrosis caused
by the compression of the ureteropelvic junction by the paraduodenal hernia was suspected. Although this was not certain, we decided to repair the paraduodenal hernia first to avoid irreversible damage caused by blind treatment of the ureteropelvic junction. The follow-up results confirmed that our decision was correct.

Because we had no previous experience in surgical repair of paraduodenal hernia, the operation was long (about 3 h), and the anesthesia time for the patient was longer than three hours. The position and incision of testicular descent fixation are quite different from those of paraduodenal hernia surgery. If testicular descent fixation had been performed at this time, the patient would have endured a longer period of general anesthesia and bear the risk of changes in position and incision during the operation. Considering these disadvantages, we decided to wait for the recovery of this operation before performing testicular descent fixation (ling 127-150).

We extracted 23 cases from PubMed and Google Scholar databases using the keywords “hydronephrosis,” “PDH,” and “internal hernia,” and found that only two cases required conversion to laparotomy (Table 1). Overall, laparoscopic diagnosis and repair surgery were used to treat left PDH.

In our case, long-term postoperative follow-up showed that hydronephrosis was cured. This finding provides indirect evidence that hydronephrosis is caused by PDH. This case could help to avoid similar surgical risks and introduce a possible cause of hydronephrosis. It revealing that PDH was a possible reason for hydronephrosis. And the careful laparoscopic exploration surgery was necessary to find infrequent causes of hydronephrosis avoiding invalid Anderson-Hynes pyeloplasty surgery and its injury.

**CONCLUSION**

The case revealing that PDH was a possible reason for hydronephrosis. Laparoscopic exploration is useful for diagnosis and treatment. The careful laparoscopic exploration surgery was necessary to find infrequent causes of hydronephrosis avoiding invalid Anderson-Hynes pyeloplasty surgery and its injury. Attention should be paid to these unusual findings in long-term follow-up studies.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We thank all patients and all the rest doctors and nurses in our department.
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