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Abstract

Probably on account of easy ambulatory surgery, hernia operations appear to be popular all over the world. Incidentally, a review of it, which was carried out in this center, revealed rare cases. Therefore, the purpose of this paper is to add a case in which schistosomiasis presented itself surprisingly in an inguinal hernia. Thereafter, such cases were discussed at some length.

Index terms— hernia, inguinal, schistosomiasis, rare cases, developing community, epidemiology.

1 Introduction

asy ambulatory hernia surgery seems to hold sway all over the world as in Chile (1). In Taiwan (2), such a repair was described as "a common and straight forward surgical procedure." In our developing community (3), it is so popular that odd presentation concerning lipoma was documented (4). Therefore, the purpose of this paper is to present our experience of the rare association with schistosomiasis. Moreover, it is necessary to review world patterns in terms of the diverse countries affected.

2 II.

Case Report AN, a 65-year-old man of the Igbo ethnic group presented at the Mater Hospital, Afikpo, with an inguinal swelling of one-year duration. On examination, all systems were essentially normal apart from left-sided gynecomastia. The hernia itself was easily reducible. There was some thickening of it in addition to cream colored hard patches. The submitted cup-shaped mass, which measured 7 cm across, had been removed surgically and safely. Microscopy revealed that the thickening was due to infestation by innumerable ova which were terminally spined characteristically. Therefore, the case was diagnosed as that of *Schistosoma haematobium*.

Despite the gains in the health care delivery, schistosomiasis has prevailed as a health challenge in the tropics (5). An interesting aspect of it is the publication of hernia case reports such as ours. Among them are those of metastatic pancreatic adenocarcinoma (6), and dirofilariasis (7). Elsewhere, Author ? : Medical Foundation & Clinic, Enugu, Nigeria.

Author ? : Mater Hospital, Afikpo, Nigeria. e-mail: wilson.onuigbo@gmail.com rectum polyp case was reported on by the authors concerning our community (8).

Moreover, there was need to review single case reports occurring worldwide. They are as follows: transplant liver in Philippine (9), colon in Sudan (10), skin in Brazil (11,12), cerebrum in China (13), lung in Madagascar (14), skin in Nigeria (15), and infertility in UK (16).

Incidentally, one of us dealt with the historical aspect of the hernia (17). The findings included association with hydrocele, confined intestine, colloid cancer, and swallowed data-stones! Indeed, a most revealing review also came from this community (18). In conclusion, therefore, the subject of herniation as well as the diversification of its presentation is of interest worldwide. ¹

¹Schistosomiasis in Inguinal Hernia Sac: Case Report

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