### PEDIATRIC SURGICAL EMERGENCIES

Rama Awad Rama Adnan Abdallah Ghwiry Pediatric surgical emergency condition is a broad spectrum of surgical pathologies/disorders occurring in pediatric age group requiring proper emergency surgical care as the only option of management to salvage life, avoid/minimize disability or palliation.

ACUTELY PAINFUL +/- SWELLING +/- RED SCROTUM

### Acute scrotum

### Causes

- Testicular Torsion
- Tortion of appendage ( commonest for prepubertal boys)
- Epididymo-orchitis.
- Torsion of Appendages
  - Other conditions e.g. Incarcerated hernia

### **Testicular torsion**

**PEDIATRIC TESTICULAR TORSION IS AN ACUTE VASCULAR EVENT IN** WHICH THE SPERMATIC **CORD BECOMES TWISTED ON ITS AXIS, SO THAT THE BLOOD FLOW TO OR FROM THE TESTICLE BECOMES INTERRUPTED. THIS RESULTS IN ISCHEMIC INJURY AND INFARCTION** 

Testicular torsion can take place either inside the tunica vaginalis (intravaginal) or outside it (extravaginal).

1.Intravaginal testicular torsion (see the image below) is far more common and represents almost all torsion events in older boys 2. Extravaginal testicular torsion is commonly seen in perinatal cases. Hence, the diagnosis is often made late, long after the torsion event has taken place.



**incidence**: one group presents in the **perinatal period** (perinatal testicular torsion), and the other group presents in **early puberty** (though torsion can present at any age, well into adulthood)

#### **Risk factors :**

Bell-clapper deformity Pubertal changes Anatomic abnormalities Physical activities Not fully developed tunica and scrotal tissue adhesion

acute onset of diffuse testicular pain ,Nausea, vomiting

### Signs

- Swollen, red hemiscrotum , affected testis have a horizontal lie, lies higher than contralateral testis.

absent or decreased cremasteric reflex.
Negative Prehn's sign: no pain relief with the affected testicle.

- Fever and urinary symptoms are presence is more indicative of epididymitis))

### **Diagnostic imaging**

- Unnecessary if clinical finding are strongly suggestive , surgical detorsion should not be delayed

- Color Doppler ultrasound : absence of blood flow in the twisted testicle ( no central testicular blood flow but excessive peripheral )

- Radionuclide Scan

### Lab result

Can help exclude alternative diagnosis ( e.g orchiepidiymitis )



• TESTICULAR TORSION OF THE LEFT SIDE. (A) COLOR DOPPLER ULTRASOUND OF THE LEFT TESTIS SHOWS HETEROGENEOUS ECHOGENICITY AND NO DETECTABLE BLOOD FLOW IN THE LEFT TESTIS, SUGGESTING LEFT TESTICULAR TORSION. (B) COLOR DOPPLER ULTRASOUND OF THE NORMAL RIGHT TESTIS SHOWS HOMOGENEOUS ECHOGENICITY AND DETECTABLE BLOOD FLOW IN THE RIGHT TESTIS MANAGEMENT

- TIMING IS CRITICAL 4 6 HOURS
- EXPLORATION IF ANY DOUBT .
- UNTWIST AND ASSES VIABILITY
- FIX OTHER SIDE (ORCHIOPEXY FOR CONTRALATERAL TESTIS)
- IF MORE THAN 12 HOURS, IT IS
   LIKELY TO BE NON-VIABLE AND
   MAY NEED ORCHIECTOMY . (
   NON SALVAGEABLE )

4-6 hours of symptom onset, salvage rates may approach 90%; with delayed intervention, however, these rates drop dramatically-to 50% at 12 hours after symptom onset and to almost 10% after 24 hours. In contrast, perinatal testicular torsion almost always results in loss of the involved testis (salvage rate, < 5%)

### **Prognosis**:

# Torsion of the appendage of the testis

occurs in children aged 7-14 years. Poses no threat to health

• The pain is located in the superior pole of the testicle. focal

point of pain on the testicle is uncommon in complete testicular torsion.

- Systemic symptoms are absent.
- Nausea and vomiting
- Blue dot sign
- Vertical orintation of the testes is preserved
- cremasteric reflex is usually intact



### **Doppler ultrasound:**

normal blood flow to the testis Management

treated conservatively; NSAIDs and ice are the mainstays of therapy

operative if torsion cannot be excluded

### **Epididymo-orchitis**

INFLAMMATION OF EPIDIDYMIS & TESTIS DUE TO INFECTION OR TRAUMA

( CHLAMYDIA TRACHOMATITIS AND NEISSERIA GONORRHOEA

14 AND 35 YEARS OF AGE ARE MOST OFTEN AFFECTED **1.Gradual onset of pain in hemiscrotum** 

2.Commonly associated with fever and UTI (urinary symptoms)

3.Pain relief by elevation of hemiscrotum Prehn's sign The cremasteric reflex remains normal

4. Doppler Scan:

### Management:

treated conservatively with antibiotics and antiinflammatory drugs



## Intussusception

- Telescoping of bowel
  - •It refers to the condition whereby a proximal segment of intestine becomes drawn into the lumen of the adjacent distal bowel.
- Most common cause of small bowel obstruction in toddlers
- Most common site (ileo-cecal)

















#### Sudden acute abdominal pain (colicky in nature)

### Vomiting

### **Blood in stool (redcurrent jelly stool)**

#### Palpable abdominal mass

### Hx of URTI







### Target sign

### **Contrast enema for diagnosis and treatment**







### Indication for surgery

### Peritonitis

Sepsis

### Failure of the conservative treatment

### Recurrence

### When there is leading point

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### **Necrotizing Enterocolitis**

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Disorder involving inflammation and ischemic necrosis of intestinal walls. (progressive disease)



NEC may involve single or multiple segments of the intestine, most commonly the terminal ileum, followed by the colon Necrotizing enterocolitis (NEC) is the most frequent and lethal gastrointestinal disorder affecting the intestine of the stressed, preterm neonate.

## Multiple risk factors have been associated with development of NEC .

- VLBW Infants
- Enteral Feeding
- Bacterial overgrowth
- Prematurity
- Hyperosmolarity of solution

#### bell's criteria for necrotizing enterocolitis

| Stage | Classification | Clinical Signs   | Radiologic Signs                       |
|-------|----------------|--|--|
| 1     | Suspected NEC  | Abdominal distention                                       | lleus/dilation                         |
|       |                | Bloody stools  |  |
|       |                | Emesis/gastric residuals                                   |  |
|       |                | Apnea/lethargy   |  |
| H     | Proven NEC     | As in stage I, plus:                                       | Pneumatosis intestinalis and/or portal |
|       |                | Abdominal tenderness                                       | venous gas                             |
|       |                | ±Metabolic acidosis  |  |
|       |                | Thrombocytopenia   |  |
| III   | Advanced NEC   | As in stage II, plus:                                      | As in stage II, with pneumoperitoneum  |
|       |                | Hypotension  |  |
|       |                | Significant acidosis                                       |  |
|       |                | Thrombocytopenia/disseminated intravascular<br>coagulation |  |
|       |                | Neutropenia  |  |

Modified from Walsh MC, Kliegman RM: Necrotizing enterocolitis: treatment based on staging criteria, Pediatr Clin North Am 33:179, 1986.

### **Clinical findings**



- Dull, dusky-colored, distended abdomen
- Symptoms of sepsis (temp instability, poor perfusion, lethargy)
- Large, bilious residuals
- $\circ$  Bloody stool
- $_{\odot}$  Hypoactive/absent bowel sounds
- Abdominal tenderness

### Initial work up

Labs: Findings associated with NEC CBC – Thrombocytopenia – Neutropenia (<1500/microL) –poor prognosis DIC panel (PT/INR, PTT, Fibrinogen, D- dimer) Elevated PT/INR, PTT, D-dimer Decreased Fibrinogen BMP (may have values similar to those found in sepsis)

– Hyponatremia (<130)



### Work up

- Abdominal radiography
- The mainstay of diagnostic imaging
- An AP and a left lateral decubitus view are essential for initial evaluation
- Should be performed serially at 6-hour or greater intervals, depending on presentation acuity and clinical course, to assess disease progression
- If the infant does not tolerate



### Management

- Medical management (10-14 days)
- Make NPO, start on IVF (consider TPN).
- Insertion of nasogastric tube to suction for decompression
- Empiric antibiotics Ampicillin, gentamicin Clindamycin and/or flagyl are often added for severe cases
- Cardiovasculatory/pulmonary support as needed
- Pediatric surgery consultation

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### Management

- Surgical management
- Absolute indication for surgery
- Pneumoperitoneum
- Relative indication for surgery
- failure to improve
- progressive thrombocytopenia
- Portal vein gas
- Severe peritonitis
- Surgical intervention
- Peritoneal drainage



### Prognosis

With aggressive treatment and earlier diagnosis, 70-80% of infants survive.

Infants requiring surgical intervention have a higher mortality rate

About half of survivors have no long-term sequelae.

Long term sequelae:

Stunted growth

Short gut syndrome / intestinal adhesions (in patients requiring extensive resection.



## CONGENITAL HYPERTROPHIC PYLORIC STENOSIS (CHPS)



Pyloric Stenosis involves narrowing and obstruction of the pyloric channel because of hypertrophy of the circular muscle of the pylorus.

 It is the most common pediatric surgical disorder of infancy that necessitates surgery for associated emesis.
 Gastric outlet obstruction results in emesis, which is characteristically nonbilious and projectile.

Protracted emesis, as well as failure of the stomach to empty into the duodenum, results in progressive dehydration, electrolyte abnormalities, acid-base disorders, weight loss, and, potentially, shock . Incidence:

. 8:1000

.M/F ratio=4:1

.More in first born babies

.More in infants born to a mother who had suffered from CHPS

### presentation

#### • Symptoms...

• . Projectile vomiting is typically nonbilious but may have brown discoloration or a coffee-ground appearance due to associated gastritis, particularly if emesis has persisted for several days

- . The vomiting occurs within 30-60 minutes after feeding
- . The infant remains hungry and usually attempts to feed immediately after vomiting
- Classically the symptoms between 3-12 weeks after birth

Signs... Signs of dehydration which may be severe and life threatening. .Visible peristalsis in the upper abdomen can usually be seen after the baby is given a test feed followed by projectile vomiting





. Laboratory Studies:



• An electrolyte panel is essential for estimating the state of dehydration and acidosis/alkalosis in patients with pyloric stenosis. Hypochloremic hypokalemic metabolic alkalosis is the characteristic biochemical disturbance observed in pyloric stenosis.



Radiography: • Upper GI (UGI) contrast studies have largely been supplanted by Ultrasonography as the study of choice for confirming pyloric stenosis.

### Ultrasonography:

. pyloric channel length (normal 11 mm, pyloric stenosis > 15-18 mm)

. pyloric muscle length (normal 13-17 mm, pyloric stenosis > 19-21 mm)

.pyloric muscular wall thickness (normal < 2 mm, pyloric stenosis > 3-5 mm).

.pyloric diameter (normal < 10-15 mm, pyloric stenosis > 10-15 mm)





### Treatment

• Once the diagnosis of pyloric stenosis has been confirmed, adequate ongoing preoperative fluid resuscitation must be maintained by establishing adequate urine output (1 mL/kg/hr) and correcting acid-base disorders and electrolyte abnormalities.

Pyloromyotomy may be performed either as an open procedure, via a right-upper-quadrant (RUQ) horizontal incision or an umbilical incision (Tan-Bianchi operation), or as laparoscopic procedure.



thank you