Obstructive Uropathy Caused by Uterine Prolapse

Ying-Yuan Chen1,2, Rheun-Chuan Lee1,2 and Shu-Huei Shen1,2*

1Department of Radiology, Taipei Veterans General Hospital, Taiwan
2School of Medicine, National Yang-Ming University, Taiwan

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*Corresponding author: Shu-Huei Shen, Department of Radiology, Taipei Veterans General Hospital, Taipei, Tel: (886)-2-2873-7180; Fax: (886)-2-2876-9310; Email: shshen@vghtpe.gov.tw

Abstract

An 84-year-old woman was presenting with recent decline in renal function. The imaging studies showed uterine prolapse, causing bilateral hydronephrosis and hydroureter. In multiparous elder women with renal function impairment, obstructive uropathy caused by pelvic organ prolapse should be considered as a correctable etiology.

Keywords: Hydronephrosis; Obstructive uropathy; Pelvic organ prolapse; Uterine prolapse

Abbreviations: POP: Pelvic Organ Prolapse

Introduction

An 84-year-old woman was presenting with recent decline in renal function. She had given birth 6 times by vaginal deliveries and has been experiencing urinary frequency for years. The abdominal sonogram showed bilateral hydronephrosis (Figure 1). The abdominal computed tomography revealed uterine prolapse with complete inversion. The bladder trigone was caudally displaced and bilateral lower ureters showed tapering appearance at genital hiatus level, indicating external compression (Figure 2).

Discussion

Pelvic organ prolapse (POP) results from weakness of the supporting structures of the middle compartment and commonly occur in multiparous women [1]. The association between advanced POP and hydronephrosis has been recognized. The incidence of hydronephrosis is 5% for the first degree POP and increases to about 40% for procidentia [2]. The obstruction occurs as the uterus descends; the bladder trigone and lower ureters were dragged down together, resulting in compression of the ureters between the uterus and the medial borders of the genital hiatus [3]. Renal involvement linked to POP ranges from acute to chronic renal failure. Prolonged duration may lead to renal impairment [4].

Conclusion

POP is a correctable cause of renal function impairment and should be considered when the patient is a multiparous elder woman.
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References

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