

An Uncommon Cause of Post-Hepatic Jaundice: Gastroduodenal Artery Aneurysm

Uma Causa Incomum de Icterícia Pós-Hepática: Aneurisma da Artéria Gastroduodenal

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Palavras-chave: Aneurisma; Duodeno; Estômago; Icterícia Obstrutiva.

A 73-year-old man with a history of arterial hypertension and blunt abdominal trauma requiring splenectomy 11 years ago presented to the emergency department with abdominal pain, progressive jaundice and dark urine. Laboratory findings revealed elevated alkaline phosphatase levels (596 U/L), gamma-GT >1200 U/L and total bilirubin of 5.1 mg/dL (direct bilirubin 4.4 mg/dL), confirming post-hepatic jaundice.

An abdominal computed tomography scan revealed a large saccular aneurysm originating from the gastroduodenal

artery, partially thrombosed, measuring 8.7 cm (Fig. 1), causing external compression of the common bile duct leading to dilation of the intrahepatic bile ducts (Fig. 2).

Given the considerable aneurysmal diameter and partial mural thrombosis, an endovascular approach at our centre was unfeasible. The vascular surgery team at a tertiary centre planned urgent, but not emergent, open repair, with transfer scheduled in 2 days. Sadly, the patient died from aneurysmal rupture before transfer.

Gastroduodenal artery aneurysms account for approximately 1.5% of all visceral artery aneurysms. The main aetiologies include trauma, atherosclerosis, hypertension and pancreatitis.^{1,2} The most common complication is haemorrhage, with a mortality rate of 40%.¹ Post-hepatic jaundice from bile duct compression is extremely rare.^{2,3} Treatment depends on the aneurysm's anatomy and size, involving either surgical repair or endovascular intervention.³ ■

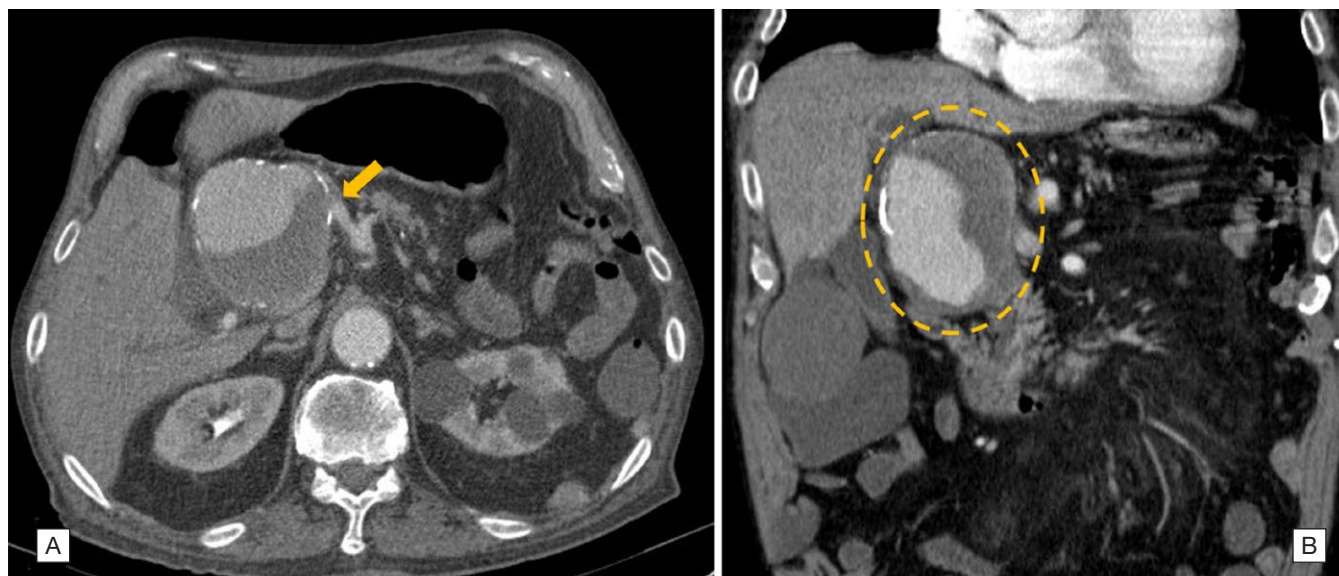


Figure 1: [A] - Axial computed tomography scan – saccular aneurysm originating from the gastroduodenal artery (arrow). [B] - Coronal computed tomography scan – gastroduodenal artery aneurysm with partial mural thrombosis.

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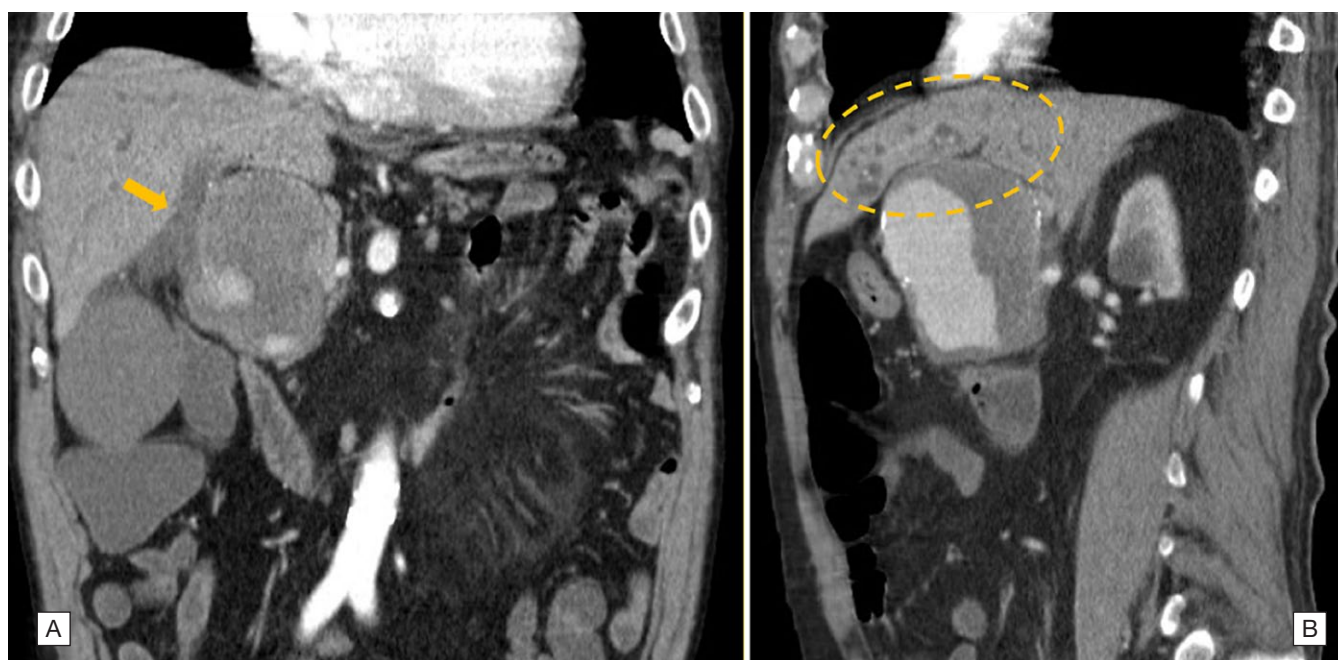


Figure 2: [A] - Coronal computed tomography scan – compression of the common bile duct (arrow). [B] - Sagittal computed tomography scan – dilation of intrahepatic bile ducts.

Contributorship Statement

CS – Writing, revision, and approval of the final version of the manuscript.
RBS – Revision and approval of the final version of the manuscript.
PA – Collection of images, revision, and approval of the final version of the manuscript.
All authors approved the final version to be published.

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CS - Escrita, revisão e aprovação da versão final do manuscrito.
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PA - Recolha de imagens, revisão e aprovação da versão final do manuscrito.
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